



MICRO DIGI-CAMS P.12
Want to hide your camera in an Altoids tin? You can.

EXTREME TIPS INSIDE

Tips from the creators of Photoshop, iMovie, Word, Excel, and more

The 16 weirdest programs ever assembled—and they're all on this month's CD-ROM

HOW TO:

Overdub Flubs in <mark>iMovie</mark>

Share <mark>iTunes</mark> Across a Network

Send Files Over the Internet for Free

Trash Locked Files

and Directories

REVIEWED

 Dual 1.42GHz Power Mac, FreeHand MX, d2 FireWire 800 drive, Tony Hawk's Pro Skater 3, 1GHz 17-inch iMac, Power Over Ethernet, Data Bank, Black & White: Creature Isle, Data Rescue, and much more....

Talks Tips for Pro Skater 3 p.51

MAGAZINE





We stare down 10 top 17-inch LCDs, and tell you which ones blinked.







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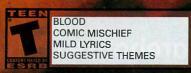


TONY HAWK'S A PROSKATER





- explore enormous levels
- interact with the environment like never before
- new challenging goals and objectives













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We're holding out for a FireWire 800 pterodacty

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the disc

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720×576 (PAL D1)
704×480 (NTSC 4CIF)
704×576 (PAL 4CIF)

eo System: NTSC

WHO_NEEDS_IDVD

FreeHand MX trial Here's your chance to check out one of the world's top drawing apps without laying down big bucks.

ontheDisc

WEST TROUBLE TO BE STONE OF THE PARTY OF THE

AUDIO & MUSIC

AACelerator 1.0 AudioBookMaker 2.0 **AWS Guitar Tuner 1.1** Beast 1.01 demo ChordBook 2.6 ChordBook (OS X) 2.6c **Claw 1.0** Clutter 1.0d8 DeKstasy 1.2 iHam on iRye 2.0 **INet Stream Archiver 1.6.3** iSpeak It 1.1 JunoX2 1.51 demo MakingMusic 1.3 MidiFork 1.0 MP3 Dock 1.0 MP3 Sushi 1.4.1 netTunes 1.2 Ringtone Converter 4.2.1 Ringtone Converter X 4.2.1 SimpleSynth 0.7 Slayer 1.51 demo Spongefork 2.0 Voice Box 1.3.1

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OS X 5 demo

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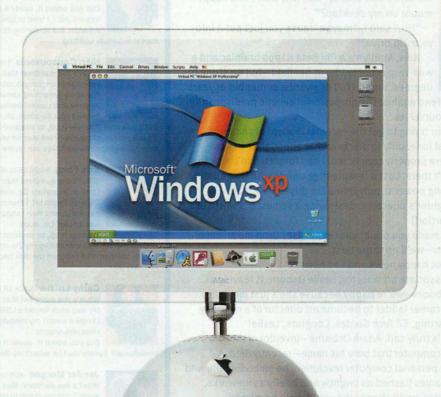
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STAFF RANTS

D'oh!

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D'oh!

Even smart people make dumb moves.



You've done it. Probably more than once.

And what is it?

Making an incredibly boneheaded mistake when working with your Mac.

Just yesterday, my wife called me downstairs to her office and asked, "Rik, why won't this floppy mount on my desktop?"

"Uh," said I, "maybe 'cause you just put it into your Zip drive?"

Now, Marilyn's a Phi Beta Kappa brainiac and a well-respected leader in her field—but no string of degrees, mantel full of awards, or number of years

of Mac experience can defend against the all-powerful genetic predisposition we have to make fools of ourselves.

Once I spent half an hour trying to get the external modem of someone on my staff to detect a dial tone, only to discover that although the phone jack and power supply were properly connected, I had forgotten to check the serial cable—which wasn't there. Lost a few prestige points with that editor.

Once I plugged the wrong power supply into a Zip drive. Blew it up.

Once I trashed my daughter's directory, destroying a semester's worth of work. (*Thank you*, DiskWarrior!)

What've you done that made you doubt your expertise? Drop me an email at letters@macaddict.com—we'll print the best.

On another note, I've got happy news and sad news.

The happy news: Our associate art director, Leslie Osborn, is leaving us. No, we're not insensitive boors—we're happy because she's just moving down the hall and up the career ladder to become art director of a new mag our parent company is starting, *EZ Tech Guides*. Congrats, Leslie!

The sad news, though, is truly sad. Adam Osborne—inventor of the groundbreaking portable computer that bore his name—recently died. A flamboyant pioneer of the personal computer revolution, he embodied the wild 'n' crazy days when companies flashed as brightly and briefly as fireworks, and one guy with a great idea could change the world. He'll be missed.

Enjoy,



fromtheeditor's desktop

WHERE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW IT ALL STARTED

In honor of Adam Osborne, here's a collection of Web sites that detail the early days of the personal computer revolution. Yes, the first commercially available PC really did ship with 256 bytes—that's not a misprint—of RAM.

Old-Computers.com

www.old-computers.com A fabulous collection of info about many of the computers that started it all, including Adam's Osborne I.

An Interview with Lee Felsenstein

http://opencollector.org/history/homebrew/engv3n1.html
Osborne's lead engineer talks about the very early days, including why 2001's HAL sang "Daisy" as it was being lobotomized. Warning: extremely geekitudinous.

DigitalDataPorn

www.lindkvist.com/digitaldataporn No, it's not what you think—it's a collection of 401 of the geekiest early-days images you could ever hope to find in one place.

History of the Microcomputer 1973–1986

www.larrysworld.com/articles /historypc.htm

A concise history of the early years, with info on Ed Roberts, George Morrow, John Draper, and other pioneers—including some guy named Gates.

STAFF RANTS

Q1: What's the dumbest Mac mistake vou've ever made?

Q2: Did you admit it, cover it up, or pretend it was intentional?



Narasu Rebbapragada ARTFUL DODGER
What's the dumbest Mac mistake you've ever made?
I stepped on and broke a video card I was about to install.
Did you admit it, cover it up, or pretend it was
intentional? I tried to turn it into a mixed-media art
creation, but somehow its aesthetics were a bit less

than emotionally uplifting.



Niko Coucouvanis THE ONLY NORMAL PERSON HERE What's the dumbest Mac mistake you've ever made? I engage in ongoing dumbness: I don't back up my files. For all my preaching about maintaining proper disk hygiene and current backups, I haven't intentionally backed up a file since, oh, about 1995.

Did you admit it, cover it up, or pretend it was intentional? It's intentional, of course—how else do you suggest I evaluate data-salvaging software? (See our review of Data Rescue, p54.)



Kris Fong EGGS ESSENTIALIST

What's the dumbest Mac mistake you've ever made? I had an important Zip disk that launched into a hard-core Click-of-Death riff. I managed to spit the disk out with a paperclip, and then I stupidly put it back in, hoping that it was a fluke. Uh. oops.

Did you admit it, cover it up, or pretend it was intentional? I told our IT guys that the disk messed up my Zip drive—which it did—but I didn't exactly tell them that I shoved the disk back in and that caused the thing to totally iam.



Cathy Lu THE QUICKER FIXER-UPPER

What's the dumbest Mac mistake you've ever made? My dad once forced a USB cable into a serial port. I know it wasn't my mistake, but since I'm related to him, I feel responsible.

Did you admit it, cover it up, or pretend it was intentional? I pretended he wasn't my dad. Of course.



Jenifer Morgan JENTHE OBSCURE
What's the dumbest Mac mistake you've ever
made? I'm too dumb to tell you.
Did you admit it, cover it up, or pretend it was



Intentional? As I said, it's hard for me to say.

Chris Imlay TOUCHY ARTSY GUY
What's the dumbest Mac mistake you've ever
made? Installing 10.2.4 before discovering its automatic
date-changing powers. It is now 4:01 p.m., December 31,
1969—I'm now less than one year old!
Did you admit it, cover it up, or pretend it was

Intentional? Well, duh—I just admitted it! Yeah, cover it up by broadcasting it in an internationally distributed magazine. Very effective.



Leslie Osborn LAME RUBBER DUCKIE

What's the dumbest Mac mistake you've ever made? Before I understood the whole idea of a System Folder, I decided to take it upon myself to tinker around with it. The untested shareware I installed probably didn't help matters much.

Did you admit it, cover it up, or pretend it was intentional? Me, do wrong? Nevahl



Max ALPHABETIZATIONIST

What's the dumbest Mac mistake you've ever made? Plugging a DVI—AGP?—LCD into a PCI (not AGP) VGA card. OMG!

Did you admit it, cover it up, or pretend it was intentional? Total CYA.

It's a lot easier to take on an army



when you are one.

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THE INCREDIBLE SHRINKING CAMERA

New Digital Cameras Are Smaller Than Ever



emember the air of novelty that used to surround small-sized digital cameras like Canon's original Digital Elph? Size comparisons to wallets and shirt pockets abounded and gave skeptical film-camera users just one more reason to consider abandoning their 35mm rolls and leather-bound photo albums for Compact Flash cards and iPhoto.

Association), people aren't wowed anymore by the compact size of digital cameras—they expect it. In response, manufacturers are exceeding these expectations with some of the smallest cameras ever.

German camera maker Leica, best known for high-end professional cameras and lenses, is releasing the Minox DCC Leica M3 2.1 (pictured above; \$389,

People aren't wowed by the compact size of digital cameras anymore—they expect it.

Now, however, small is the default. With 21 percent of U.S. households owning a digital camera and the volume of digital camera sales expected to exceed that of film cameras in 2003 (according to the Photo Marketing

www.leica-camera.com/usa). With a 2.1-megapixel CMOS sensor, the retro-stylish black camera body is styled after that of the 1950s-era Leica M3. And at 2.5 inches wide by 2.5 inches high, it's about the size

of a standard pad of Post-It Notes (see "It's All Relative," p13). With no zoom or manual settings, this camera is purely a point-andshoot affair. This old-school beauty should be available by the time you read this.

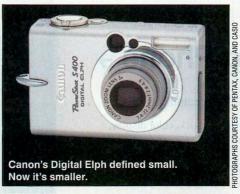
Similarly, Pentax is marketing its 3.2-megapixel Optio S (\$425, www .pentax.com) as the camera that fits in a tin of Altoids breath mints. This camera is slightly upmarket compared to the Leica camera, with a 3x optical zoom (4x digital), macro mode, shooting modes (landscape, sunset, and so forth), and some manual controls. It should also be available by the time you read this.

Even Canon, the de facto instigator of the small-body revolution, found a way to shave a little girth off its high-profile Digital Elph.

Canon's new 4-megapixel PowerShot S400 Digital Elph (\$599, www.usa.canon.com) is about 0.3 inch thinner and shorter than the previous 2.1-megapixel PowerShot S330 Digital Elph. Canon also increased the digital zoom, decreased the macro mode distance, and increased the duration of the movie clip you can shoot. The PowerShot S400 should be available by the time you read this.

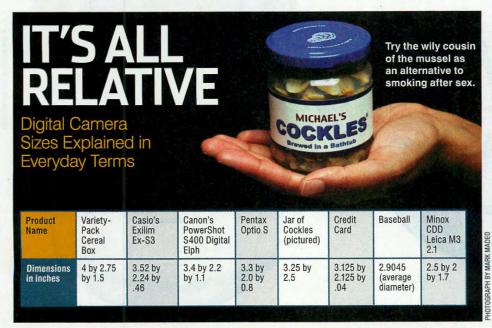
At less than 1/2 inch thick, the thinnest camera in the lot is Casio's new 3.2-megapixel Exilim Ex-S3 (\$349.99, www.casio.com). About the size and proportion of a credit card (minus the bulbous viewfinder on the corner), the Ex-S3 sports a 4x digital zoom and is otherwise primarily point-and-shoot. It comes with 15 scene modes, including a coupling shot that lets you and a friend take each other's picture and appear within the same photo.

There are two groups of people these tiny





devices won't appeal to: serious photographers (these cameras are primarily for hobbyists who rely on presets and scene modes) and people with big fingers (the little buttons can be hard to push accurately). For others who want a stylish point-and-shoot, though, these cameras give you a final reason to ditch film altogether.-Narasu Rebbapragada



NEW STUFF

250GB FIREWIRE 800 DRIVE

EZQuest Cobra+ FireWire 800

Price TBD, www.eza.com

Available: June

2003

Add this 7,200-rpm hard disk to the list of FireWire 800 drives the growing list of vou can almost get your hands on.

EZQuest adds to

new FireWire 800 drive offerings.

QUARKXPRESS 6

Price TBD, www.quark.com Available: Summer 2003 (maybe) Quark is working on QuarkXPress 6 with multiple undos and full-resolution previews. This latest rev is supposed to have the fabled Mac OS X support we keep hearing so much about. No word yet on when version 6 will ship, but the rumor mills say possibly this summer.

RAW-IMAGE VIEWERS

Adobe Photoshop Raw Plug-in \$99. www.adobe.com/products /photoshop/cameraraw.html

Available: Now Lightbox

\$25, www.lightboxsoftware.com

Available: Now

These two new apps, a Photoshop plug-in and a piece of shareware, let you view and convert digital photos in your camera's raw photo format. The raw file contains all the image and meta data captured by your camera's CCD, and is the digital equivalent of a film negative. Lightbox supports the raw formats of most major camera manufacturers, and Adobe supports Canon, Fujifilm, Minolta, Nikon, and Olympus cameras.

PERSONAL LASER PRINTER

HP LaserJet 1300

\$399 (USB) and \$599 (with Ethernet

adapter), www.hp.com

Available: Now

According to an HP, the new LaserJet 1300 prints a full 20 pages per minute even at 1,200 dpi, and spits out the first page in a mere 8 seconds. It includes PostScript Level 2 (emulated), 16MB of RAM, and a 250-sheet paper tray. Options include Bluetooth (\$129) and 802.11b (\$299) wireless adapters.

Sony Ericsson T310 • www.sonyericsson.com • \$99 estimated

his gamer's delight comes with a joystick, color display, 32 game sounds, vibrating force feedback, and a digitalcamera attachment. The triband GSM phone operates at the 800MHz, 1,800MHz, and 1,900MHz frequencies. In Europe, Asia, and Latin America, the phone comes bundled with Tony Hawk's Pro Skater 4. In the United States, only AT&T subscribers get Pro Skater (for a nominal fee), but U.S. carriers will offer about 60 other games.-NR

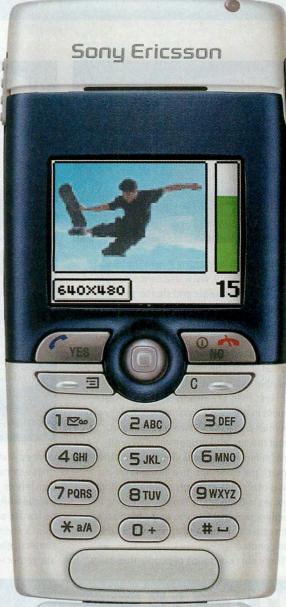
> Now when your mom says to go outside and play, you won't argue.

The Music Phone **↓**

Nokia 3300 • www.nokiausa.com • \$200 to \$300 estimated

his summer, check out the Nokia 3300: a combination MP3 player, FM stereo radio, and phone (GSM 850MHz and 1,900MHz frequencies) with keyboard. You can't use the phone's USB port to download music from your Mac; however, Nokia told us that you can copy your MP3 files onto an MMC card with a card reader, insert that card into the phone, and play the music just fine. -NR







PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF NOKIA

PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF SONY ERICSSON

MAC OS X Internet Surfing Options

he browser brawl is back, providing a startling array of choices for the coveted Default position in your Internet system preferences dialog. To help you sort through the hope and the hype, we compiled the following chart based on our own hands-on tests loading NBA.com (one dang complex page).

Be aware that—thanks to open-source program design—by the time you read this, features will have been added and new revs posted.-Robert Capps

ON THE DISC Internet Explorer X 5.2.2, OmniWeb 4.1.1 trial, and Opera 6.0

	Camino (formerly Chimera)	iCab	Internet Explorer	Mozilla	Navigator	OmniWeb	Opera	Safari
Company, URL, and Price	Mozilla Project, www.mozilla .org, free	iCab, www.icab.de, free (\$29 for iCab Pro)	Microsoft, www.microsoft .com/mac, free	Mozilla Project, www.mozilla .org, free	Netscape, http://channels .netscape.com/ns /browsers, free	The Omni Group, www .omnigroup .com, \$29.95 (free trial)	Opera Software, www.opera.com, \$39 (free ad-sponsored version)	Apple, www.apple .com, free
Current Version	0.7 beta	2.9.1 (partial release)	5.2.2	1.3	7.0.2	4.1.1	6.0	public beta 2
Mac OS 9 or Earlier	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
Site Launch Time (in Seconds on Dual 1GHz G4)	7	13	10	7	22	8	8	10
Surfing Speed Within Site	Fast	Slow	Slow	Fast	Fast	Moderate	Moderate .	Fast
Modern Standards Supported	HTML 4, XML, CSS 1, CSS 2, DOM	HTML 4, DOM	HTML 4, XML, CSS 1, CSS 2, DOM	HTML 4, XML, CSS 1, CSS 2, DOM	HTML 4, XML, CSS 1, CSS 2, DOM	HTML 4, CSS 1	HTML 4, XML, CSS 1, CSS 2	HTML 4, XML CSS 1, CSS 2 DOM
Tabbed Browsing (Multiple Pages in One Browser Window)	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
Includes Mail and News Clients	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Embedded Web Search Tool	No	No	No.	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Can emulate Netscape or Internet Explorer	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
What's Unique?	Uses the advanced Mozilla Gecko HTML engine but is specifically designed for Mac OS X.	Special full-screen Kiosk Mode for keeping lists of links in a separate tab:	Auction manager; Scrapbook for offline surfing; most widely used and supported.	Evolving browser with advanced HTML- rendering engine.	Netscape's good reputation; most stable Mozilla Gecko-based browser.	Autoupdating bookmark feature; spelling checker for filling out Web forms.	Quick Preferences adjust preferences on the fly; lots of handy shortcut-key commands.	Snap Back button returns to surfing origins; best bookmark management.

FIRST CHOICE: CAMINO

AND THE Camino is a lean, fast, smart browser based on the Mozilla Gecko engine and customized for Mac OS X. and customized for Mac OS X.

RUNNER-UP: SAFARI

Right now it's hard to online bank with Safari. Once Safari can emulate Netscape or IE, or becomes widely supported by online institutions, it will almost surely kick Camino's lean, fast, and smart ass.

SHAREWARE PICK OF THE MONTH

KONFABULATOR

Arlo Rose and Perry Clarke • www.konfabulator.com • \$25

Now you can check out hundreds of news tickers, clocks, eBay watchers, and games, thanks to Konfabulator—a JavaScript run-time engine that lets you run all kinds of widgets on your desktop. With Quartz rendering, widgets can take advantage of 32-bit transparency and animated fades, so the apps look good. As of press time, Konfabulator's Web site hosts 172 free downloadable widgets, but it won't be long before you're using the easy-to-learn JavaScript scripting language to make your own contributions to Konfabulator's growing developer community.—Andrew Tokuda





Konfabulator brings the wonderful world of widgets to the Mac.



Make it so, punk.

BEAM ONBOARDSTAR TREK: ELITE FORCE II

Phasers on Stun, Maximum Setting

Velcome back to the

Star Trek universe, firstperson—shooter style. More than
two years after the release of Star
Trek Voyager: Elite Force, it's time
to suit up for Star Trek: Elite Force II

Star Trek: Elite Force II Aspyr www.aspyr.com Price TBD Available: 2003

with more weapons. gameplay, and alien races than you can shake a Klingon Bat-Leth at. As Alex Munro, you command special operations for the Elite Force Hazard Team. You'll encounter new and old Star Trek races. away missions on hostile planets, starships, and the U.S.S. Enterprisewhere Captain Picard and Tuvok might even fight by your side. Elite Force Il uses a tweaked Quake III engine with



Star Trek: Elite Force II on ice.



This first-person shooter isn't just for Trekkers.

Force II will be available later this year to delight Trekkers and non-Trekkers alike.—*Matt Osborn*



Play Sim City 4 and show Gluliani how it's really done.

SIM CITY'S BACK. START BUILDING.

Be a God and a Mayor—What Could Go Wrong?

The ultimate God-game series—one with a 14-year gaming legacy—returns to the Mac, and the rules have changed. In Sim City 4, you begin the game as God, sculpting the land, planting trees, and creating

Sim City 4 Aspyr www.aspyr.com \$49.95 Available: Q2 2003 animals. Next, you put on your mayor's hat and let the urban planning begin. In the midst of awesome visuals, detailed models, special effects, and superclose zooming, your goal in this game isn't to increase real-estate value—it's to serve the

populace, keeping them happy and growing. After you've gained their trust, you can flip to God mode and raise some hell with volcanoes, meteors, and other forms of destruction. Isn't urban planning fun?—MO

ATARI PADDLES FOR THE MAC

Try Griffin Technology's PowerMate

o you yearn for the feel of classic Atari games like Video Olympics or Pong? Got a Griffin Technology PowerMate (\$45, www.griffintechnology.com)? This knoblike USB device for adjusting volume or scrolling through video also does a killer job of controlling old-school games. Load up the PowerMate's software, create a setting in the PowerMate system preferences

for the game you're playing, and test your controls. The PowerMate works with emulators such as MacMAME, and games that support customizable hot keys.—MO

Use your PowerMate as a game controller.



multiplayer options

for deathmatch

and capture the

flag. Still early in

development, Elite

TIGER WOODS PGA TOUR 2003

Get Teed Off Like Tiger Woods



Landscapes and weather conditions in Tiger Woods PGA Tour 2003 look be-yoo-ti-ful.

Birds chirping in the trees, the splash of your ball in a water trap, and pro golfers David Feherty and Bill

Tiger Woods PGA Tour 2003 www.aspyr.com Available: Q2 2003

Macatee commenting on your every move: You are Tiger Woods and this is the PGA Tour. Play 12 courses, including Pebble Beach, Spyglass Hill, and St Andrews (new to the 2003 version of the game). Check out game modes like Play Golf and Skills Competition-or try Career mode, where you take Tiger on the road, buy equipment, take lessons, and even create your own golfer, whom you control. As of press time, we could not confirm the inclusion of an online play component, which may be a pay-to-play service. -MO



C'mon, you can take Tiger.



Feel the raw, unbridled emotion that is...golf.

OPEN-SOURCE WEB TOOLS

Manage Your Site Like the Pros Do...for Free

ac OS X users have access to many of the same tools Unix professionals use for maintaining large, commercial Web sites. Check out these opensource apps for managing and developing your own site.—Michael Luton

rsvnc

www.rsync.org

What Is It?

Rsync is a commandline tool commonly used to transfer entire directory trees from one server to another.

Why Is It Cool?

Rsync compares the source and destination files and transfers only the parts of the files that have changed. With rsvnc you can maintain a local test server and update a remote production server without using an FTP client like Fetch to manually transfer files.

CVS (concurrent versions system)

www.cvshome.org

What Is It?

CVS lets you store the source-code files for a project in a central location, Individual users can check out a copy of the project files and then check in their changes periodically.

Why Is It Cool?

Project team members can freely edit any file without worrying about overwriting someone else's changes. CVS merges the differences between two copies of the file.

phpMyAdmin www.phpmyadmin.net

What Is It?

phpMvAdmin is a hugely popular GUI interface for MySQL, a relational database package included with Mac OS X.

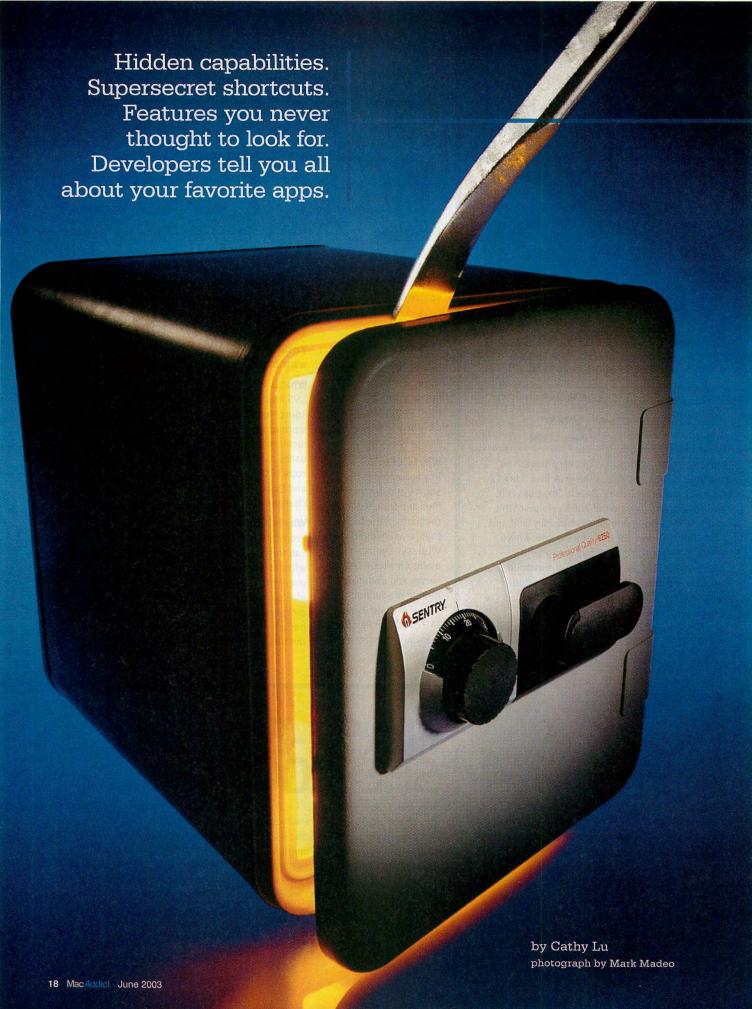
Why Is It Cool?

phpMvAdmin simplifies MySQL database administration by handling the heavy SQL work. The nifty point-and-click Web interface generates the necessary SQL commands behind the scenes and feeds them to MvSQL.

FLASH-BASED SHERLOCK?

Macromedia Unveils Dev Tool for Internet Apps

acromedia Central (www.macromedia.com) is Macromedia's latest application for leveraging its popular Flash multimedia development tool. An application environment for creating Flash-based miniapplications, Macromedia Central creates Internet content finders similar to Apple's Sherlock channels-for example, eBay price checkers and movie timetables. Why go Central over Sherlock? Macromedia says Central apps automatically download and update data when you're on the Internet, so you can use them offline as well. Macromedia Central will be available this summer.



more Adobe Photoshop

Official Secrets

f you think you know all there is to know about Photoshop, Toast, iMovie, Word, Excel, and Flash, you're wrong. But it's not your fault. No matter how many hours you spend using your favorite apps, there's no way you could know them as well as the people who created them. No way. So we went straight to the source—product managers, programmers, and quality-assurance experts—to pump them for their best-kept secrets and arsenals of supercool tricks. We didn't ignore fun stuff, either—we cracked some secrets on one of the most popular games of all time, The Sims.

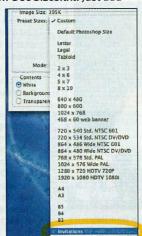
Adobe Photoshop

Create Custom Documents

When you create a new document in Photoshop 7, you find a list of standardized document sizes-but there's no way to create your own preset. Right? Wrong! There's just no easy way to do it. In your Photoshop 7 folder, look for a Presets folder, and within that folder, a text document called New Doc Sizes.txt. Just add

your own presets to this document, and they'll appear the next time you launch Photoshop and create a new document. Follow the directions provided in the New Doc Sizes.txt document to get the formatting right.

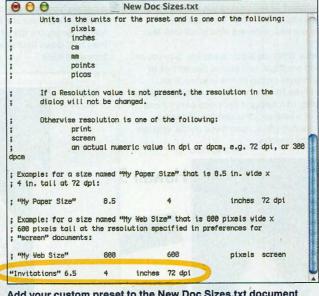
Here's another trick for dealing with new documents: If you want to mimic the dimensions of a file that already exists, open that file, bring up the New dialog, and while that dialog is open, go to Window > Documents > file name. Shazam! Your new document picks up the attributes of that file faster than Colin Farrell picks up chicks.





TIPSTERS:

Adobe's Kevin Connor, director of product management; Julienne Kost, senior evangelist; Marc Pawliger, engineering director

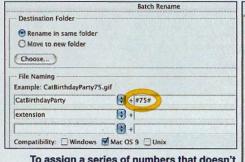


Add your custom preset to the New Doc Sizes.txt document (above), and it'll appear the next time you ask Photoshop to create a new document (left).

Exploit the File Browser

Many people use Photoshop 7's File Browser to rotate and rank thumbnails methodically—but if you share these files with others, your viewers don't benefit from all your hard work. Fortunately, there's a way to retain rotation and ranking when you move your files: Select Export Cache from the File Browser's flyout to save that information in the same folder as the files. Then if you burn your batch of images to CD or put it on a server for others to view, that information travels along, faithful as Old Yeller.

Speaking of the File Browser and batches of images, here's an easy-but unintuitive-way to assign a series of numbers that doesn't start with 1. In the File Browser, select the group of images you want to rename, then select Batch Rename from the File Browser flyout. As you build your name, enter the following where you want your number (for example, 75) to appear: #75#. You'll see your pictures renamed, starting with the number 75.



To assign a series of numbers that doesn't start with 1, enter this code in the Batch Rename dialog (above). When you're done, your pictures should line up just as you commanded (right).



Print Multiple Pictures

Remember senior year of high school when you exchanged wallet-size yearbook pictures with all your friends? All personalized with cheesy messages on the back, of course ("I loved sitting next to you in AP English this year!" or "Yer gonna rock at Williams!"). Well, you can relive those years by creating a whole sheet of identical exchangeable pictures. Just go to File > Automate > Picture Package and select from one of many layouts, let Photoshop assemble the collection for you, then cut 'em up and trade 'em with your friends. You can even create your own layout—a read-me file in the Photoshop > Presets > Layouts folder tells you how.



Thanks to Photoshop's Picture Package feature, you have a plethora of ways to be narcissistic.

QUICK TIPS

- Preview Blending Modes In the Layers palette, holding down Shift and either the plus (+) or minus (-) key cruises you through the various blending modes. It's a quick way to check out what different effects will look like.
- → Get a Grip on Your Handles Say you're making a collage, and you've placed one or more images on top of one another. If you select Free Transform to do any kind of scaling, skewing, or rotating, it becomes easy to lose track of where your handles are. Pressing Command-0 (zero) zooms you out far enough to see the handles.



◆ Apply Type Effects to All Layers If you have multiple type layers and you want to apply a certain type attribute (say, Anti-Alias Sharp) to all layers at once, the Shift key is your best friend. Simply link the different type layers, and then hold down Shift when you change the type's attribute.

Hawaii Collage # 25.8% (L



(left), now you do (right).

→ Flatten Without Losing Layers Here's a little-known tip: If you have a layered file, you can create a flattened copy of what you have done so far without losing the separate layers you created. Just add a new layer to your document. Hold down the Option key while clicking the Layers

palette flyout, and choose Merge Visible. This creates a flattened copy on the new layer you just created, but retains the separate layers. Now you can apply a sharpen filter or another tweak to the grouping

The Merge Visible command flattens the layers you've created so far (top). Holding down Option while choosing Merge Visible retains the lavers while also flattening them (bottom).



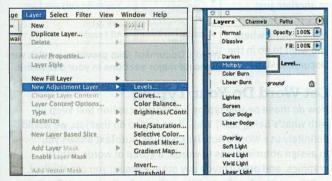
Fix Faded Photos

If you have an old, faded photo, here's an easy way to improve its density and contrast. Scan it, then open it in Photoshop and create any type of new adjustment layer (Layer > New Adjustment Layer > Levels (you don't have to select Levels—any option works). Click

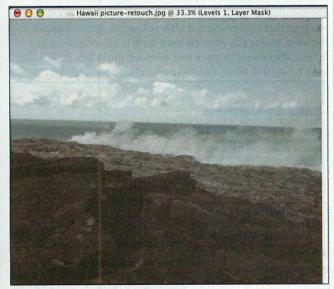
through the dialogs without changing the settings. In the Layers palette. select Multiply as your blending mode, You now have an extra laver of information in your picture, which should give it more contrast and color without appreciably changing the file size. Bonus!



As you can see, this picture needs a lot of help. Since you can't go back to Hawaii and retake the shot...



...just create a new adjustment layer (left), change the blending mode to Multiply (right)...

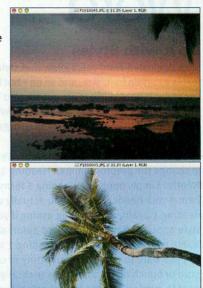


...and bask in the rays of your newly punched-up picture.

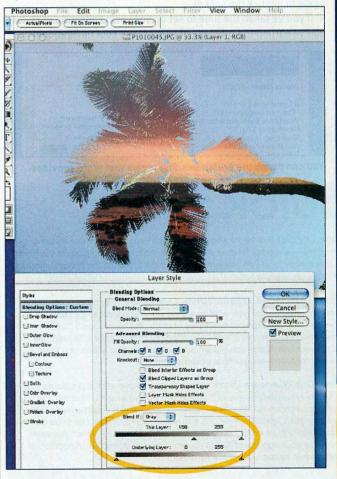
Mask Without Pain

Here's another cool retouching trick. If you hate the tedium of masking (and who doesn't), try this quick-and-dirty way to create

a simple mask. Say you want to blend two images. Double-click the top layer's thumbnail in the Layers palette to bring up the Layer Style dialog. Start playing with the sliders in the Blend If pane, and you'll see some cool masking effects taking place. For example, if you choose Blend If Gray, sliding the top slider from the left makes the dark parts of your top image disappear, while sliding it from the right makes the lighter parts disappear.



To create a quick mask of these two images (above), go to the Blend If pane in the Layer Style dialog. Play with the sliders to experiment with different effects (below).



Microsoft Word

M

TIPSTER:

Microsoft's Stuart DeSpain, lead program manager for user interface

Do It with Styles

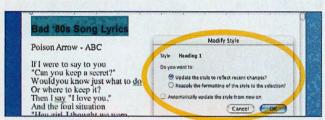
Most dedicated Word users *know* that styles make it easy to format text in a certain font, size, and so on—but how many of us actually *use* styles? (Book authors are not allowed to answer that question.)

Well, not only do styles offer a quick way to pretty up your documents, but you can use them to organize and navigate your document easily.

First, here are a few tips on how to use styles. Say you want to change the preprogrammed Heading 1 style in the Formatting Palette. Simply apply the Heading 1 format to some text, then format your header the way you actually want it to appear. Select Heading 1 again, and a dialog asking if you want to update the style appears. Say OK, and Word automatically updates all the text to which you applied the Heading 1 style.

If you want to apply the formatting of certain text to another word or bunch of words, try this trick: Highlight the word you want to mimic. Click the format painter icon (the paintbrush) in the Standard toolbar. The next word you click takes on the style of your original word. To apply that style to multiple noncontiguous words, double-click the format painter icon to make it stick to all subsequent words you click. Click the icon again to unstick the sucker.

If you've taken the time to set up your own collection of styles, you've earned the privilege of using these cool navigational



You can tweak the prefab heading styles that Word provides.

QUICK TIPS

- ◆ Edit in Print Preview Did you know that you can edit your document in Print Preview mode? Neither did we. Click the magnifying glass in the Print Preview toolbar, and you can jump into your document in the Preview window and make last-minute tweaks.
- → Undo and Redo Multiple Times Command-Z may be your best friend—but that buddy gets a bit annoying when you want to go back ten steps. The Standard toolbar has a pair of undo and redo arrows (the equivalents of Command-Z and Command-Y). But click the little triangles next to these icons, and you get a history of actions that allows you to go back—or forward—any number of steps. Sweet!
- → Help Out Windows Users Windows users have a lot of problems, but you can only help with some of them (you're not a therapist, after all). Usually Word files will open on Windows machines, even with the formatting intact. But if they don't, go to Preferences and select Compatibility. Here you can substitute a font, as well as choose the version of Word for which you want to optimize your document (DeSpain recommends doing this in addition to selecting that format in the Save As dialog).

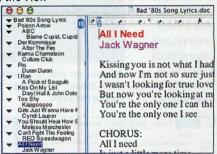
tricks. First, try switching to
Outline view (by way of the
View menu or the layout options
buttons at the bottom left of your
document window). This allows
you to collapse sections under
the headers you just created, and
hence find and move to sections in
a long document more easily.

Another option is to use the Document Map (under the View

menu), which shows you a list of all your main headers in a pane to the left of your document. If you want to jump from one section to another, just click the header representing where you want to go in the Document Map.



in Outline view, click the symbol next to a header to collapse the text underneath.

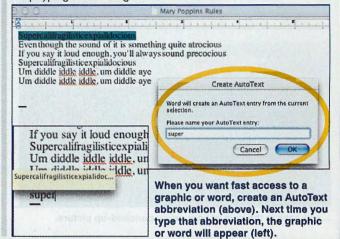


Word's Document Map provides a quick way to locate major sections in your document.

Let Word Do Your Typing

How do those people typing out closed-caption text keep up with what's being said? Well, if we had to do that job, we would definitely use Word's AutoText feature. AutoText allows you to assign abbreviations to words, a group of words, tables, graphics, and pretty much any other element you can think of.

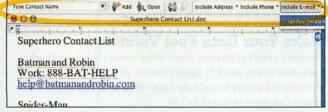
Bring up the AutoText toolbar (View > Toolbars > AutoText). To add an AutoText entry, highlight the element you want to store, click New in the AutoText toolbar, and assign that element an abbreviation (or go to Insert > AutoText > New). Now, every time you type that abbreviation, a little yellow box appears above the word, telling you what element Word is offering to replace for you. If you want to place that element, press Tab. Otherwise, keep typing and Word ignores the AutoText abbreviation.



Make Word Rendezvous with Entourage

Microsoft is constantly touting Office's integration of four different apps, especially the camaraderie between Word and Entourage (Microsoft's email, contact, and calendaring app). For example, in Word, if you type a name that's in your Entourage address book, that name autofills. You can then Control-click the name to get extras such as contact info.

But if you do a lot of word-processing work that involves contacts, you might want to call forth the Contact toolbar, Just go to View > Toolbars > Contact to summon a handy toolbar that allows you to look up your Entourage contact info, as well as add it to your document-all from within Word.



Our superheroes contact list is as handy as our Contact toolbar.

Replace Find And Replace

There's a simpler way to search for certain elements and words than using the unwieldy Find And Replace. In between the double scroll arrows on the scroll bar, you'll find an innocuous circle.

Clicking this circle allows you to browse by criteria. such as headings, page, section, and comments. For example, selecting the Browse By Page button takes you to the next page in your document. You can also click the Find button to bring up the good ol' Find box.



Use the browse doohickey in the scroll bar, along with the double-scroll arrows, to search your document.

Now here's the really useful part: Once you select your search criterion (say you want to browse by page), all you have to do is click the up and down double-scroll arrows to jump to the next item (in this case, the previous or next page). This even works if you select the Find button, choose a word to search by, and close the Find dialog.

Apple iMovie

Say No to Ken Burns

We admit it: Most of us here at MacAddict are softies, and we like all that schmaltzy iMovie stuff Apple's always showing off (like videos of some Apple executive's kids running along the beach, set to that sappy Green Day song). So we love the idea of the Ken Burns Effect, which lets you pan and zoom a

still photo in iMovie.



To get the Ken Burns out of the Ken Burns Effect, move the Zoom slider as far left as it will go.

But what if you want to place still photos that actually stay still (what a concept)? You need to turn off the Ken Burns Effect. Luckily, it's easy: In the Photos pane of iMovie, pick the image you want, click the Start radio button, and slide the Zoom slider all the way to the left. Then click the Finish radio button and again slide the Zoom slider all the way left.



TIPSTER:

Apple's Michael Uv. product marketing manager

Place Your Effects Easily

You can easily position visual effects like Lens Flare and Fairy Dust in your video frame. In the Effects pane, select the effect you want—say. Fairy Dust—and then click in the preview window. You can move the path around in the preview window until it's just right. As if you'd waved a magic wand, your fairy-dust path appears where you positioned it.

Use Chapter Markers without iDVD

You don't need iDVD-or a SuperDrive, for that matter-to use iMovie's chapter markers. Placing a chapter marker in your project (in the iDVD pane) allows you to snap the playhead back to that part of your movie by doubleclicking the chapter in the list. This can save time if you're navigating a big, unwieldy iMovie project or you've zoomed the timeline in all the way.

> Chapters are a useful way to navigate a long movie.

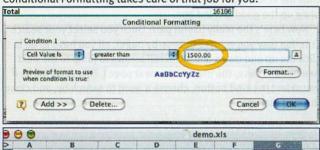


Microsoft Excel

TIPSTER: Microsoft's Kris Barton, lead program manager

Hire Excel to Analyze Data

Excel handles an awful lot of tedious work, but you can also get it to do some of your analysis using Conditional Formatting. Say you own a sporting-goods shop and you've created a spreadsheet that breaks down sales of different equipment. You want to highlight the goods that earned you more than a certain amount o' cash so that you can charge even more next year. Conditional Formatting takes care of that job for you.



>	A	В	C	D	E	F	G
3		Column1	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Totals
		Soccer Balls	\$ 424.00	\$ 541.00	\$ 716.00	\$ 856.00	\$ 2,537.00
5		Soccer Shoes	254.00	343.00	509.00	639.00	1,745.00
5		Warm-Ups	194.00	289.00	505.00	432.00	1,420.00
1		Bags	156.00	189,00	195.00	210.00	750.00
3		Shinguards	212,00	234,00	256.00	272.00	974.00
)		Hats	112,00	113.00	160.00	185.00	570.00
0		Books	86,00	110,00	112.00	158.00	466.00
1		Socks	175.00	186.00	204.00	236.00	801.00
2		T-Shirts	150.00	163.00	185.00	196.00	694.00
3		Shorts	310.00	358.00	375.00	408.00	1,451,00
4		Videos	65.00	78.00	96.00	108.00	347.00
5		Medical	158.00	218.00	245.00	285.00	906.00
6		Jewelry	87.00	110.00	118.00	157.00	472.00
7		Goalie Gloves	368.00	375.00	415.00	435.00	1,593.00
8		Accessories	199.00	717.00	319.00	225.00	1,460,00
9		Total	811921 324	16100110	Wildly)	Mangala	16186
0						1 15' 17	

Enter criteria and text formatting in the Conditional Formatting box (top), and the results appear before your very eyes (bottom).

QUICK TIPS

- ➤ Learn Your Returns When you want to add a carriage return within a cell, pressing Return won't do the trick—that just takes you to the next row. Instead, press Control-Command-Return or Control-Option-Return.
- **Date Your Spreadsheets** Here are a couple of dating tips (don't get excited—these are of the Excel variety). To enter today's date quickly, press Control-semicolon (;). To enter the time, press Shift-Control-semicolon. To set up a spreadsheet that updates the date every time you open it, type =today(). To make both the date and the time update, type =now ().



Enter the correct code (left), and your spreadsheet will forever keep up with the times (right).

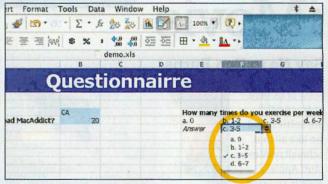
Simply highlight the rows or columns you want Excel to analyze. Go to Format > Conditional Formatting. In the dialog that appears, enter your criterion—in our sports-store example, we wanted to get all totals that exceeded \$1,500. Next, click Format to choose how you want to call out the results (for example, bold or in a different color). Click OK, and Excel highlights all the cells that meet the criteria. If you deal with massive spreadsheets, your poor eyes will thank you for this.

Make Your Data Feel Validated

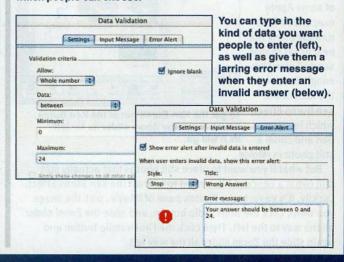
Everyone needs validation these days—especially people who have their noses stuck in spreadsheets all day. Well, Excel provides the ability to validate data—that is, restrict what people can enter in a certain cell.

For example, if you're putting together a survey, you don't want to offer people too much freedom with their answers, or the info you collect won't tell you much. Use Excel's Data Validation feature to restrict what kind of responses people can give.

To do so, click the cell, go to Data > Validation, and enter your restrictions. You can also create an error message that pops up if anyone enters the wrong data, or a text box that floats over your answer cells to provide guidance. Never underestimate the amount of guidance people need with these things.



You can create all sorts of data validation, including a list from which people can choose.



Roxio Toast



TIPSTERS:

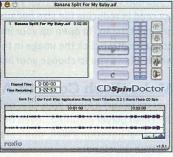
Roxio's Adam Fingerman, senior product manager; John Acree, SQA lead

Update Your Vinyl Collection

Most of us born in the pre-CD generation want to know how to convert our old Linda Ronstadt, Go-Go's, and, um, Loverboy LPs to CD. Believe it or not, all the software (and even the cable) you need is right in the Toast box. "It's not a hidden trick," says

Fingerman, "but it is a hidden piece of software."

Inside the Toast folder, a Roxio Music folder contains an app called CD Spin Doctor. And inside the Toast box is the cable you need to connect your Mac to your stereo. Once you're hooked up, CD Spin Doctor records Linda, Belinda, and, um, Mike in all their glory and converts the music to a digital waveform, which you



CD Spin Doctor is the hidden treasure in the Toast box for those who want to convert vinyl to CD.

can then use to cut the tracks as well as clean up noise and pops. And you thought you'd have to buy new CDs to replace your LPs.

Make Data DVDs the Right Way

Here's an example of a feature that Fingerman recommends using *less*. Toast's Other menu offers the ability to burn a DVD. But don't use that option if you're burning a data DVD—instead, use the regular Data window that you use for burning CDs. Data DVDs use the UDF (universal disk format) file system, whereas a regular data disc takes advantage of HFS+ (Hierarchical File System Plus). Since Apple's UDF support isn't as good as its HFS+ implementation, you'll get better results with HFS+ discs. For instance, they'll maintain file settings like Show Info comments and locked files. Plus, Mac OS X won't try to launch the DVD player as it does with UDF discs.

Create Progressive CDs

Maybe you're a high-end videographer who wants to burn progressive-scan (aka noninterlaced) video to a Video CD. Toast does in fact support your endeavor, but this ability is well hidden.

Go to the Other menu and select Video CD. When you're dragging your movie to the Toast window, press Option. In the Toast Video CD Options dialog that appears, you'll see a menu you've probably never spotted before: the Progressive menu, which provides high-end settings only those of you with fancy camcorders capable of progressive-

Image: Fit Mode: Normal Progressive: From Image Progressive Fielded	Format:	NTSC (29.97 fps)	*
Progressive: ✓ From Image Progressive	Image:	Fit	where
Progressive	Mode:	Normal	4
	Progressive:	Progressive	

Hidden options reveal themselves when you press Option as you drag a movie to the Toast Video CD window.

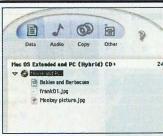
scan video can utilize. You'll also see a new option under the Format menu: NTSC (23.976 fps). Most of you don't need these high-end options. But it's there for those four—uh, we mean few—of you who do.

Enhance Your CDs

If you want to make audio CDs with a little extra somethin' special, Toast lets you create enhanced CDs. An enhanced CD plays in your CD player, and also offers multimedia content—slide shows, QuickTime movies, and so on—when you pop it in your Mac.

The thing is, you
don't want to make an
enhanced CD via the
Enhanced CD option
under the Other tab. Why?
Because this option creates
discs in an old format that
requires the QuAC (QuickTime
Audio Containable) multimedia
format Apple used to tout years
ago. Currently no tools author
this outdated type of content.
Roxio left the option intact as
a favor to old-timers who still
have OuAC files.





To make an enhanced CD, first burn an audio disc session (top), then a data disc (above).

The rest of you will have to create enhanced CDs in a much less intuitive manner. First, burn an audio CD using the Audio window. When you burn that CD, choose Write Session. When you're done, add QuickTime movies, slide shows, PDF files—whatever—to the Data window, but this time select Write Disc when you burn your disc.

Heed this warning: Do *not* burn the data session first! If you do, and then slip that disc into a standard CD player, the ungodly noise caused by the data could potentially ruin your speaker system. And that would suck.

QUICK TIPS

- → Kill Your Data Say you have a bunch of files sitting in both the Data and Audio windows, and you'd like to expunge them. Several keyboard shortcuts can pull the trigger. To delete every file in just the window that's open, press Command-Option-Delete. To delete every file you've dragged into Toast—regardless of which window it's in—press Command-Option-Control-Delete. Thank god for our ten fingers and two hands.
- → Select Your Burner—Fast If you have multiple burners—you lucky dog—and want to select which one to use, at the bottom of the Toast window you'll find a bar listing the currently selected drive; click this bar to cycle through your drives.

Macromedia Flash

TIPSTER:
Macromedia's
Michael Williams,
product manager

Make Your Bitmaps Behave

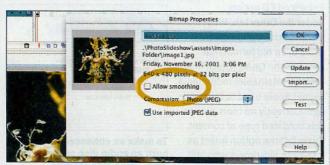
Does this ever happen to you? You import a beautiful bitmap image into Flash and place an outline around it, but you can't quite get the outline and image to line up no matter how much of a pixel perfectionist you are. Well, you're not alone—a lot of people out there share your pain. Luckily, Williams says there are several different ways to deal with problematic bitmaps. (By the way, bitmap



The subtle white outline around this image is a little too subtle on the top and left.

display problems result from the fact that Flash is a vector-based tool rather than a bitmap-native one).

Try disabling the Allow Smoothing option. Double-click the image from the Library, which brings up the Bitmap Properties box. From here, *uncheck* the Allow Smoothing check box.



Uncheck Allow Smoothing for a smoother viewing experience. It's counterintuitive, but it works.

2 Use the Scale command (Modify > Transform > Scale) to shrink your image ever so slightly, leaving a tiny space between image and outline.

3 Convert the bitmap to individual pieces using the Break Apart command (Modify > Break Apart). This converts the solid fill into vectors, which the Flash renderer can deal with better.

4 If jumping occurs during an alpha tween (which lets you do a fade effect), try a different alpha value during the tween's start or finish. For example, try setting the alpha value (in the property inspector) of your symbol to 99 percent instead of 100, or 1 percent instead of 0.

Move the registration point (the point where the player starts drawing a graphic) to the lower-right corner. Most users set the registration point to the upper-left corner. Moving it to the lower-right one gives the x and y coordinates a negative value, which helps solve the imprecision error that currently causes bitmap shifting within Flash. To move the registration point,

double-click a symbol and move it so that the crosshair (which represents the registration point) is where you want it.

Here's another tip: To optimize a bitmap image, you must use a bitmap editor like Macromedia Fireworks or Adobe Photoshop. If you don't—and instead crop your image in Flash—you won't succeed in reducing file size because Flash is still storing the original bitmap. To open up your image quickly in a bitmap editor, Control-click the image in the Library and select Edit With, which allows you to choose your image editor du jour.

Make Flash Content Appear Correctly

Ever try to surf a Flash Web site, only to be told you don't have the Flash player installed...even though you do? (That's a rhetorical question.) Well, don't blame Macromedia; blame the Web developers.

So all you Web developers, listen up: To deploy your Flash content so that everyone—especially Mac users—can view your content, do not try to roll your own scripts. Instead, Williams asks that you please, please use Macromedia's free Flash deployment kit (downloadable from www.macromedia.com/software/flash/download/deployment_kit). According to Williams, using this kit will ensure that your beautiful content gets out there correctly and that you don't have to recode your scripts when new versions of Flash come out.

QUICK TIPS

- → Change Kerning An easy way to change the kerning between static text in Flash is to press Command-Option plus either the left or right arrow key.
- ➤ Look Around the Stage It's a cinch to pan the stage quickly—no need to navigate using scroll bars. With any tool selected and the cursor positioned over the stage area, hold down the space bar to access the hand tool.
- → Move Entire Objects If you want to move both the stroke and fill of an object, you need to double-click the object. Single-clicking makes it lose its outline.
- → Duplicate and Move Shapes In one fell swoop you can duplicate a shape and place the copy in the right spot. With the arrow tool selected, Option-click and drag the shape you want to duplicate, letting go at the spot where you want to place the second shape. Don't forget to double-click the shape first if you want to duplicate both the stroke and the fill.
- → Zoom with Freedom It's easy to toggle between the different zoom modes. With the magnifier tool selected, press Option to switch from zoom in to zoom out. Oh, and to switch zoom modes quickly, try these shortcuts:

Command-1 View at 100 Percent

Command-2 Show Frame

Command-3 Show All

◆ Change the Eyedropper's Behavior When you use the eyedropper tool, clicking a fill color merely changes the current fill color and switches the selected tool to the paint bucket. But if you Shift-click a color with the eyedropper, you can change both the fill and outline colors, and the eyedropper remains active.

The Sims



TIPSTER:

Westlake Interactive's Phil Sulak, vice president and lead programmer for The Sims

Find the Secret Easter Egg

The Sims started life as a PC game, but that doesn't mean the Mac programmers didn't have a little fun. Originally, Sulak wanted to insert an iMac into the game as an object for Sims to purchase, but concerns over copyright issues put the heave-ho on those plans. Instead, he opted for something a little subtler.

To find this undocumented Mac-specific Easter egg, first buy your Sim a computer. Click the computer and select Play. Then press Command-Shift-E until your Sim turns on the computer. As the machine boots up, you should hear the dulcet sounds of a Mac starting up. Each of the four available computers gives you a start-up chime from a different Mac era (remember that ol' Mac Plus

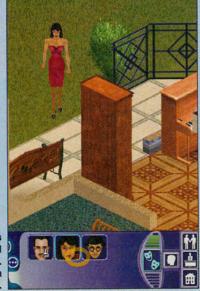
bling?). If your Sims can't buy a Mac, at least they can bask in the aural pleasure of one.

Buy all four computers, and you'll be privy to an Easter egg tailor-made for Mac lovers.



QUICK TIPS

- → Command-P This utilitarian combo pauses the game and brings you to the desktop.
- → Page Up and Page Down, or Tab Use these keys to toggle between upstairs and downstairs.
- → Plus (+) and minus (-) Zoom in and zoom out. You probably never guessed that.
- → Space Bar Press this to cycle between the different characters. And to think that all these years you've been using your mouse to do that...
- ◆ Comma (,) and period (.) These keys rotate the camera 90 degrees.
- ◆ 1, 2, and 3 Use these keys to control the speed of the action (1 is slowest, 2 is medium, 3 is fastest).
- → Control-click a character in the Mood bar This shortcut tells the camera to follow your Sim wherever he or she goes.



Control-click a character's face in the Mood bar and you'll see a red crosshair. This means the camera will follow your Sim.

Kill 'Em with Creativity

Fans of The Sims love to find new and creative ways to kill off their characters (hey, at least we're taking out our frustrations on fake people, OK?). So here's one of Sulak's favorite killer tips; Simply build a long, thin pool all the way around your Sims' house, moat style. Now they can't get out to go to work, nobody can come by, and even the fire department can't save them. Tragic.







A harmless little fire becomes a catastrophic affair for our Sims when there's a moat around the house. Makes it kind of difficult for the fire department to do its job.

Sexy

by Narasu Rebbapragada photography by Mark Madeo

MacAddict Stares Down the World's Best 17-Inch LCD Displays...and Tells You Which Ones Reign Supreme

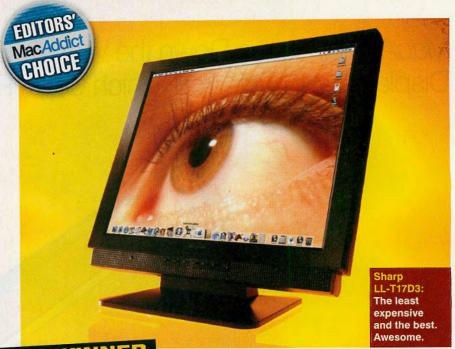
oday's LCD displays are like reality-TV bachelorettes.
Thin, stylish, and beautiful to behold, they make CRTs look as frumpy as Roseanne Barr in hip-huggers—but just add a little competition and they reveal the ugly truth about what they're really like.

To determine who's the fairest of them all, we assembled ten 17-inch LCD displays and put them through a grueling two-week contest of lab tests, real-world photo inspections, video screening, and design and value analysis. When we tallied up the scores, one reigned supreme, three earned honorable mention, four proved to be plain Janes, and two lay clawed and scratched by the roadside.

A FEW WORDS ABOUT OUR CONTESTANTS:

First, although we ran the full battery of tests on only the popular 17-inch display size, we also got our hands—and eyeballs—on a bevy of 20-inchers (see "Add 3 More Inches!", below, for our findings). Second, we tested only digital DVI and ADC connections. Connecting one of these digital displays to an analog VGA port won't give you the cleanest signal—we advise against it.

For our overall results, see "The Bottom Line," p32. For the full story on how our ten competing bachelorettes fared, read on.



THE WINNER

84% Sharp LL-T17D3

An inexpensive newcomer, the \$500
Sharp LL-T17D3, takes top honors.
Released just this February, this blandlooking display has image quality that's
anything but bland. It's the only display
that earned a perfect score on all our
Levels and Uniformity tests (see "How
We Tested," p33, for details on testing).
In our more-subjective Image Quality
tests, it did a fine job of representing the
skin tones in photos of our staff, and the
wine and cheese image we used to check
contrast looked exceptionally crisp. The
company claims a contrast ratio of 500:1

and brightness of 250 cd/m², and we saw no reason to doubt these claims. (See "Specs," p31, for a full account of each display's features—cd/m² means candelas per square meter, an industry-standard measure of a display's brightness.)

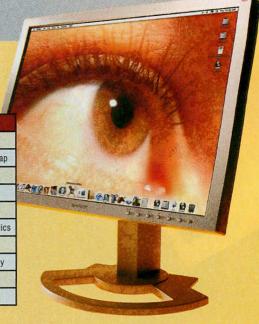
Two main drawbacks dinged the Sharp LL-T17D3's overall score: viewing angle and industrial design. Its meager 135-degree vertical viewing angle means that you have to sit fairly still to get a perfect picture—head bobbing throws it out of whack. As for its design, it's neither here nor there—it's just blah. A little advice to those Sharp engineers: If you're going to create such a stellar display, design a case to match.

Add 3 More Inches!

IF YOU'VE GOT THE CASH, A 20-INCH LCD IS A GREAT STEP UP.

A few short years ago, 15-inch displays were way cool and 17-inchers were waaaaaaay cool. Today, 20-inchers with 1,600-by-1,200-pixel resolutions are the reigning desktop status symbols—but in most cases, only those with deep pockets need apply. We gathered data on LCD displays hovering around the 20-inch size—those offered by many of the companies that provided our 17-inch contestants, along with a couple of others.

Display	Web Site	Size	Price	All in all
Apple Cinema Display	www.apple.com	20 inches	\$1,299	Affordable
Cornea Systems CT1904	www.corneasystems.com	19 inches	\$649	Downright cheap
Formac gallery 2010 Platinum	www.formac.com	20.1 inches	\$1,399	Beautiful
LaCie photon20vision	www.lacie.com	20 inches	\$1,699	Solidly built
NEC MultiSync LCD2080UX	www.necmitsubishi.com	20.1 inches	\$1,599	Kludgy case
Princeton Graphic Systems SENergy 981	www.princetongraphics.com	19 inches	\$1,000	Good ergonomics
Samsung SyncMaster 210T	www.samsungusa.com	21.3 inches	\$1,659	Versatile
Sharp LL-T2020	www.sharpsystems.com	19.9 inches	\$1,999	Great but pricey
Sony SDM-X202	www.displaysbysony.com	20 inches	\$1,999	Sleek 'n' sexy
ViewSonic VX2000	www.viewsonic.com	20.1 inches	\$1,350	High contrast



RUNNERS-UP

82% Apple Studio Display 581% Formac gallery 1740 79% Sony SDM-X72

Close behind the Sharp LL-T17D3 come the Apple Studio Display, Formac gallery 1740, and Sony SDM-X72—so close, in fact, that if they all didn't cost nearly \$200 more than the Sharp display, one of them would be taking home the Editors' Choice medallion. But you pays your money and you takes your choice—and all else being essentially equal, a lower price is A Good Thing.

Apple's 17-inch LCD Studio Display impressed with its combination of great design, crisp picture, true color, and near-perfect viewing angle. The Studio Display did a close-to-perfect job in both the Levels and Uniformity tests—not as good a job as the Sharp, Formac, and Sony displays, but close. In our real-world Image Quality tests, the Studio Display showed our attractive staff members true to their assorted human colors, although their cheeks looked a little reddish and a bit soft—not surprising, since this display claims the lowest brightness and contrast levels of any of the displays we tested.



Apple Studio Display: Well built and offers great image quality, but dim.

Low contrast and brightness would suggest that reading small black text would get tiresome, but it didn't bother our experienced eyes.

The Studio Display comes with a snap-in, snap-out ADC connector and two USB ports—the Formac gallery is the only other 17-inch display that offers USB convenience. We should also point out that the Studio Display doesn't provide any on-display brightness or contrast controls—you adjust everything via the Mac OS.

Like the Sharp LL-T17D3, the Formac gallery 1740 aced the Levels tests—but it slipped a tiny bit in overall Uniformity. In our Image Quality tests it gave editor Rik blotchier-than-usual cheeks, and our



Formac gallery 1740: Good video and color fidelity, iffy design.



Sony SDM-X72: Sony does personal electronics right. Again.

wine-and-cheese glamour shot just didn't pop. Video performance kicked hiney, however, due to the gallery 1740's highspeed MVA (multiple vertical alignment) LCD technology, unique among the displays we tested.

Formac seems to have taken a cue from Apple when designing this attractive, translucent unit. Unfortunately, it didn't include the Studio Display's formidable solidity—compared to the other displays, the gallery 1740 felt a bit filmsy. Also, like the Apple display, it lacks on-display controls. Last year, by the way, we gave this display a rating of *Freakin' Awesome* (*Reviews*, Mar/02, p49)—but that was when the Apple Studio Display cost \$999. Today, both the Studio Display and the gallery 1740 (in its ADC incarnation) go for \$699 (SRP).

Also costing \$699 (\$660 street) is Sony's SDM-X72. Like Apple's, Sony's industrial design is impressive, including a beautiful silver frame and a neat cord-management scheme in which the entire back panel pops off to hide the cords. Sony's Color tests were on par with Apple's, and its Gray tests were perfect. Image Quality results were good, but in the wine-and-cheese challenge, it was slightly less sharp than the, uh, Sharp and Apple displays.

Specs

HERE ARE THE SPECS—AT LEAST, AS LISTED ON THE BOX.

The following table lists each display's specifications, as told to us by the companies themselves. Now, not that we doubt the complete and utter veracity of each and every manufacturer's claims—but since Roman times, caveat emptor has always been a good philosophy.

	Price	Screen Size (inches)	Brightness (cd/m²)	Contrast (ratio)	Viewing Angle (vertical/ horizontal)	Ports
AG Neovo X-174 www.neovo-usa.com	\$750 (street)	17.4	220	400:1	160/160	DVI, VGA, S-Video, Composite
Apple Studio Display www.apple.com	\$699 (SRP)	17.0	200	350:1	170/170	ADC, USB
Formac gallery 1740 www.formac.com	\$699 (SRP)	17.4	220	400:1	160/160	ADC, USB (DVI model also available)
Hitachi CL-174 www.hitachi.com	\$625 (street)	17.0	260	400:1	160/160	DVI, VGA
NEC MultiSync LCD1760NX www.necmitsubishi.com	\$550 (street)	17.0	260	450:1	160/160	DVI, VGA
Princeton Graphic Systems SENergy 751 www.princetongraphics.com	\$760 (street)	17.4	220	400:1	160/160	DVI, VGA
Samsung SyncMaster 172T www.samsungusa.com	\$625 (street)	17.0	250	500:1	170/170	DVI, VGA
Sharp LL-T17D3 www.sharpsystems.com	\$500 (street)	17.0	250	500:1	135/160	DVI, VGA
Sony SDM-X72 www.displaysbysony.com	\$660 (street)	17.0	280	400:1	160/160	DVI, VGA
ViewSonic VG171 www.viewsonic.com	\$600 (street)	17.0	250	400:1	140/150	DVI, VGA



Samsung SyncMaster 172T: This looks better on paper than in real life.

PLAIN JANES

73% Samsung SyncMaster 172T
272% Princeton Graphic Systems
SENergy 751
AG Neovo X-174
71% ViewSonic VG171

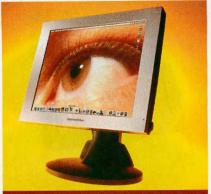
These next four displays are decent, and you wouldn't get ticked off if one landed on your desk—as long as it came at a bargain price. However, we can't really recommend them given that there are better, more affordable alternatives. In fact, two members of this quartet are the highest-priced displays in this roundup.

Samsung's SyncMaster 172T has an awesome industrial design suitable for both desktop and wall-mounted display. The SyncMaster 172T looks good on paper with a 500:1 contrast ratio and 250 cd/m²

The Bottom Line WHO WON, AND WHY.

Testing the bejeezus out of our ten 17-inch contestants confirmed our suspicions: No LCD display is perfect. Each and every unit had at least one pimple on its lovely visage—and some had full-blown acne attacks.

To rank the displays, we assigned each score (on a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being best) a percentage weighting—industrial design, for example, accounted for 7.5 percent of our score, while price counted for a solid 15 percent. Our test-analysis spreadsheet then spit out scores for each display.

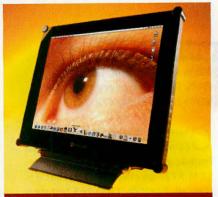


Princeton Graphic Systems SENergy 751: Expect more for this much cash.

brightness, but in our Image Quality tests, it didn't live up to the promise of its specs. Our editors looked pasty, the wine bottle was fuzzy, the image of the orange we used for the Subtlety test was patchy, and the video was lackluster.

Princeton Graphic Systems' SENergy 751 offers great ergonomics: It raises, lowers, tilts, and swivels. Its silver bevel is easy on the eyes. The screen also rotates 90 degrees from landscape to portrait mode, but unfortunately the software required for rotating the image—Portrait Display's Pivot Pro (\$49.95, http://us.portrait.com)—is currently Windows only. Bad dog, Portrait Display, bad, bad!

At its factory default settings, the SENergy 751 produced mediocre results in our Color test, losing both blue and green color gradations at the lighter end of the spectrum. Once we tweaked the contrast, however, it performed well. Ditto on the Gray test. The SENergy 751 performed solidly in our Image Quality tests, although it's not the brightest kid on the block with its 220 cd/m² brightness rating. In our video screening it performed on par with the other displays in this category, but the



AG Neovo X-174: Well designed and competent, but overpriced.



ViewSonic VG171: Acceptable—if you work only in black and white.

video image was less crisp than the upper-tier displays'.

AG Neovo seems to be the only company that isn't lowering its prices. We found street prices on the X-174 as high as \$849 but usually around \$750. Ouch. A display ought to be exceptional to cost that much, and unfortunately the X-174 isn't. Not that it's bad, mind you. Back in March 2003, we gave it a *Great* rating (*Reviews*, Mar/03, p52) for its sleek design, good color, and wealth of connectivity options (DVI, VGA, S-Video, and composite)—but that was before Apple and others dropped their prices.

Image Quality

Viewing

Angle

Construction

percent. Our test-analysis spreadsheet then spit out scores for each display.			Value	Color	Gray	White	Biack	Skin Tones	Subtlety	Contrast	Video	Vertical	Horizonta	Features	Design	
THE WINNER	84%	Sharp LL-T17D3		5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	2	4	2	3
RUNNERS- 82		Apple Studio Dis	splay	3	4	4	3	5	5	5	5	4	5	5	3	5
UP	81%	% Formac gallery 1740		3	5	5	4	4	4	4	4	5	5	4	3	3
	79%	Sony SDM-X72		3	4	5	5	4	5	5	4	4	4	4	2	4
PLAIN JANES	73%	Samsung SyncMaster 172T		3	4	4	5	5	3	4	4	3	4	4	1	4
	72%	Princeton Graphic Systems SENergy 751		1	4	4	4	5	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
	71%	AG Neovo X-174	dgel ap	1	4	4	4	5	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	4
	71%	ViewSonic VG171		4	3	5	5	5	4	3	5	4	2	4	1	1
LOSERS	58%	Hitachi CL-174		3	2	2	5	2	4	4	4	4	3	4	1	2
	57%	NEC MultiSync LCD1760NX		4	1	1	5	5	3	3	4	3	3	4	1	1
			Test weighting:	15%	10%	10%	7.5%	7.5%	3.3%	3.3%	3.3%	10%	7.5%	7.5%	7.5%	7.5%

Levels

Uniformity

Though its specs boast a 400:1 contrast ratio, none of our test photos or video appeared very sharp.

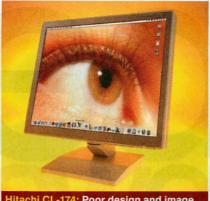
ViewSonic's VG171 got our equivalent of the reality-TV wild card. Its color performance tempted us to toss it into the Losers bracket, but the Uniformity, Gray, and Contrast tests saved it from that ignominious fate. If color doesn't matter much to you—say your job is to lay out the Wall Street Journal—this \$600 display might suit you well. However, like the Sharp LL-T17D3, the VG171 has a minimal vertical viewing angle, and its cheesy industrial design tied for worst of the lot.

LOSERS

58% Hitachi CL-174 S57% NEC MultiSync LCD1760NX

n any reality-TV show—or product comparison, for that matter somebody's gotta go down hard. Here are the big-time losers of this competition.

At the top of the bottom is Hitachi's CL-174. Its beige design is boring, although Hitachi's distributor, MonitorsDirect.com, says it can't keep the identical-but-black version in stock. In our Levels tests, the CL-174 had trouble distinguishing pinks and blues and completely washed out lighter shades of gray—apparently it can't handle its 260 cd/m² brightness rating (among the highest of the bunch). Further evidence of its out-of-control brightness was our



Hitachi CL-174: Poor design and image quality, but cheap.

editors' brilliantly white teeth—whiter than our dentally challenged reality. Our orange image looked a trifle banded, our wine bottle wasn't terribly sharp, and our Uniformity test for black showed significant backlight bleed-through. At \$625, the CL-174 just isn't worth it.

Bringing up the rear is the NEC MultiSync LCD1760NX. Besides having a bad case of beige-slab syndrome, it performed the worst of all in our Levels tests, failing to recognize colors and grays on the darker end of the spectrum. Pictures of our editors showed fewer facial lines than we know we really have. Colors in our usually luscious orange gravitated to the light and dark ends of the spectrum, ignoring many subtleties in between-this was not a piece of fruit we'd feel safe eating. Surprisingly, however, the wineand-cheese shot looked good, with the wine bottle coming in rather sharp. Maybe we just needed a drink at this point.



NEC MultiSync LCD1760NX: It just didn't perform well in our tests.

THE ENVELOPE, PLEASE

There you have it. Sharp starred; Apple, Formac, and Sony put in strong supporting performances; Samsung, Princeton Graphic Systems, ViewSonic, and AG Neovo were left waiting in the wings; and Hitachi and NEC bombed. To be fair, if money's not a problem, you'll be happy with any of our top four, and if you primarily surf the Web and write text documents, most of our contestants can play the part adequately. But the "everyone is a winner" mentality doesn't fly either in reality TV or when you can only write one check to one company for one display. So that's our story-and we're sticking to it.

Narasu Rebbapragada, MacAddict's news editor, has been staring at LCD displays for so many years that she swears they're beginning to stare back.

How We Tested

HOW OUR TESTING SEPARATED THE WINNERS FROM THE LOSERS.

To test our displays, we looked at a slew of image and text files. We also ran a copy of DisplayMate display-evaluation software (\$69, www.displaymate.com), which contains a battery of image tests designed to push a monitor to its limits. (Since it's a

Technologies, we chose the following tests upon which to base our evaluations.

LEVELS: COLOR



This pattern of ten rows of 25 successively brighter color

swatches tests a display's ability to distinguish fine gradations in different hues. We scored the monitors on how many swatches they missed.

LEVELS: GRAY



This pattern of 64 shades of gray is similar to the color

test, only in gray and with more steps. Duh.

UNIFORMITY: WHITE AND BLACK

We also used DisplayMate to present us with an all-white and an all-black screen. The all-white screen showed us how uniformly-and how brightly-a display could illuminate. The all-black screen allowed us to see if a display could show true black, or if it allowed backlighting to create a bluish bleed-through, leading to lower contrast, impaired readability, and color shifts.

IMAGE QUALITY: SKIN TONES



In addition to our DisplayMate tests, we also inspected

professional photographs of people we know well—ourselves—to check whether the displays reproduced accurate detail and color.

IMAGE QUALITY: SUBTLETY



We used a fruity picture of a luscious orange to test whether

the displays could pick up subtle gradations of color.

IMAGE QUALITY: CONTRAST

Windows-only app, we ran it using Virtual PC, which did not affect the results.) In consultation with the good folks at DisplayMate

> A wine-and-cheese glamour shot served as a real-world test for display contrast.

IMAGE QUALITY: VIDEO

We used fast-action video—a fight scene from Ang Lee's Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon—to test how quickly the displays could refresh pixels.

VIEWING ANGLE

With our wine-and-cheese image onscreen, we first centered ourselves at a comfortable viewing distance. We then raised ourselves until we detected

a significant change in the image, then noted the distance we were from center. We repeated the process while moving center to right. We assigned ratings based on how far we had moved.

CONSTRUCTION: FEATURES, DESIGN. VALUE

Finally, we asked: How many extra features—such as USB ports, speakers, and ergonomic adjustments—does it include? How solidly and elegantly is it built? And how big a bite will it tear out of your wallet?

officeat shareware

The OFFBEATOMETER™
Official measurer of an app's fun,

There's a world of crazy software out there that we betcha didn't know about.

f you're a true Mac addict, you're probably familiar with shareware greats like GraphicConverter and TinkerTool—and if not, you should be. But did you know there's an app that will keep track of your golf scores? Or shareware that allows you to play MP3s from the Dock? There's even a utility that'll time your contractions when you're in labor. Yep, there's a wide 'n' wacky world of creative shareware out there, compliments of our wide 'n' wacky world of creative shareware developers. Here are some of our favorite off-the-beaten-path apps, ranked on a scale of 1 to 10 by their fun, usefulness, and weirdness factors.

Commission on Meter Re

by Andrew Tokuda



Find all of the shareware featured in this article on the Disc.



Become an Astronaut

EarthDesk, \$19.95, www.timepalette.com

/earthdesk.html, OS 9 and OS X



Ever wonder what God sees before he-or she or it-goes to bed at night? Now we know...

If you're like us, when you were young you probably had dreams of becoming an astronaut. While

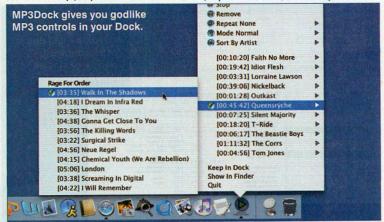
NASA may not be knocking at your door these days, you can at least check out the view from above with EarthDesk. This utility replaces your desktop image with a constantly rotating and updating map of the world, complete with correct sun and moon illumination. Very cool.



USEFULNESS: 5 WEIRDNESS: 5

It's Music to My Dock!

MP3 Dock, \$10, www.softwarium.com/mp3dock.html, OS X only

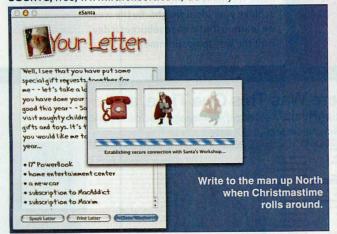


P3 Dock lets you use the Dock as an MP3 player, but goes beyond what iTunes' Dock options offer (basically little more than starting, stopping, and skipping songs). By clicking MP3 Dock's Dock icon (really, we wish there was an easier way to say that), you can navigate through your entire MP3 collection—sorted by album, artist name, folder, or file name—and play the song you want. You can even set the play order and repeat mode.



There is a Santa Claus!

eSanta, free, www.ifthensoft.com, OS X only



It's never too early to start thinking about Christmas and what yummy new Mac things you want this year. eSanta is a Christmas wish list and direct line to good ol' Saint Nick himself. Type in the presents you wish...we mean the ones your kids wish

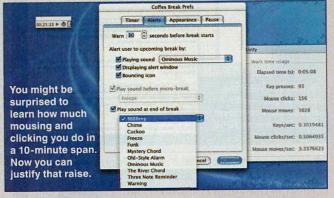
to receive for the holidays, and send an email immediately to Santa. Wait a little bit, and you'll get a personally signed letter from the jolly man up North. Wow! There really is a Santa Claus! (If you can't wait for December, you can download eSanta from www.versiontracker.com. If you can wait. If Then Software says that eSanta will be back up on its site come holiday time.)



FUN: 6 **USEFULNESS: 1** WEIRDNESS: 10

Take More Coffee Breaks

Coffee Break Pro. \$20, http://home.earthlink.net /~thomasareed/shareware/coffeebreakpro, OS 9 and OS X



You love your Mac and can't tear yourself away. But your health is almost as important as your Mac. If you're clicking, mousing, and typing for hours on end, you could fall victim to a repetitive stress injury. That is, unless you use Coffee Break Pro, which reminds you to take periodic breaks and counts your mouse movements, button clicks, and keystrokes. Now you can see how much work your fingers are doing every time you use your Mac.

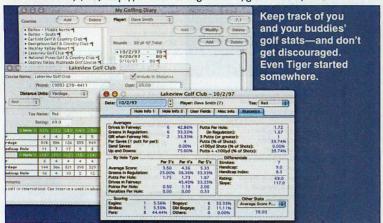


FUN: 2 **USEFULNESS: 8** WEIRDNESS: 7

Des

For the Serious Golfer

GolfMeister, \$20, http://members.rogers.com/golfmeister, OS 9 and OS X

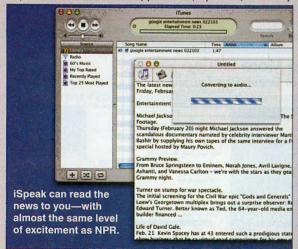


Tf you're a golfer who's feeling extracompetitive, try out GolfMeister, which keeps track of and analyzes golf scores. It's great for keeping records of which losers owe you pizza and beer. GolfMeister also keeps track of a lot of stats, including greens in regulation, drives in fairway, eagles. birdies, and more.



Read Me a Story

iSpeak It, \$8.95, www.zapptek.com/ispeak-it, OS X only



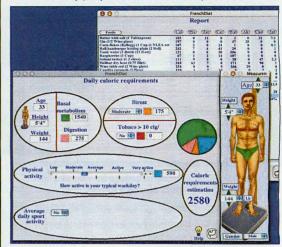
This is an app for people who are always on the go and too busy to sit and read anything. iSpeak It will turn any text document into an MP3 file, which you can listen to at your leisure. But that's just the beginning. This app can also load weather forecasts, driving directions, and news stories from Google. Just prepare yourself to spend hours listening to whatever computerized voice you've chosen for your system.



FUN: 8 USEFULNESS: 6 WEIRDNESS: 8

Watch What You Eat

FrenchDiet, \$30, www.diondine.com, OS 9 and OS X



After we used FrenchDiet for a few days, Richard Simmons began to look more appealing.

le want the Mac community to be a happy, healthy bunch, so it's important that you eat right. Now that we've gotten the morning health awareness message out of the way, let's talk about FrenchDiet, a nutritional analysis program that helps you make smart

food choices. Enter your personal info, such as height and weight, activity level (or lack thereof), and so on. Then enter the food you eat. FrenchDiet can make recommendations to help you achieve your ideal weight. By the way, we learned that a cheeseburger a day isn't the way to go. Bummer.



FUN: 3 USEFULNESS: 7 WEIRDNESS: 7

There Was This One Time, at Band Camp

MakingMusic, free, http://homepage.mac.com/davidahmed /makingmusic.html, OS X only



o you know what a sackbut is? If you have MakingMusic, you know that no one will be playing this Renaissance trombone in

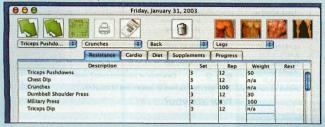
any upcoming Metallica concerts—we hope. Making Music is a database of musical instruments. Simply double-click an instrument name in the left column to load an image, description, and sound sample. With a constantly growing database of musical instruments (127 as of this writing), you'll have one of the coolest online music encyclopedias you never had to pay for.



USEFULNESS: 7 WEIRDNESS: 6

Get Six-Pack Abs! (We Always Wanted to Say That)

Muscle, \$10, http://homepage.mac.com/jamjeoutlaw /software, OS X only



With a little work and persistence, you can look like the guy in the pictures (if you really want to, that is).

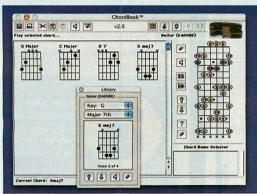
If you find yourself covering more and more of the chair you're sitting on, go pump some iron, then come back and launch Muscle. This fitness journal keeps track of your resistance exercises (sets, reps, and weight) in your quest for bigger biceps. You can also enter information about your cardiovascular workouts, food intake, and supplements, and record your results in a progress chart. Now go get 'em, Arnold!



USEFULNESS: 8 WEIRDNESS: 5

Cheap Guitar Lessons

ChordBook, \$15, www.drsdigital.com/cb.html, OS 9 and OS X



ChordBook will help you come up with that jazz variation of "Smells Like Teen Spirit" that's been brewing in your brain.

G uitar players, get your chord chops in shape with ChordBook. This axman's or axwoman's utility will help you find the best fingering for guitar chords. Choose a note, like G, and the kind of chord you want to play, such as a G Dominant 7th, then click the up- and down-arrow keys to see the different

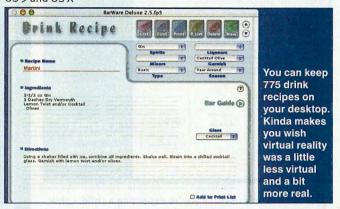
fingerings. You can also select the speaker icon to hear the individual notes that make up the chord, or click the pencil icon to draw the chord diagram. ChordBook handles alternate tunings as well. So what're you waiting for? Start fingering! (Ooh, that came out wrong.)



WEIRDNESS: 3

The Bartender's Encyclopedia Britannica

BarWare Deluxe, \$12.95, www.digitalfriedchicken.com, OS 9 and OS X



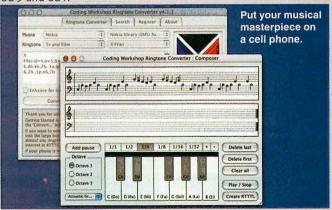
o you still live vicariously through Tom Cruise in the movie Cocktail? Let's hope not. Still, BarWare Deluxe can help you with your drink-mixing know-how. The search function can help you find recipes for all kinds of drinks, and the pop-up

categories locate recipes based on ingredients. There's also a Bar Guide, where bartender wannabes can find useful info such as the number of ounces in a shot and what a highball glass looks like, BarWare Deluxe comes with 775 recipes, but if that isn't enough, you can add an unlimited number of drink recipes to its database.



Change Your Cell Phone Ring

Ringtone Converter X, \$18.95, www.ringtonesoftware.com, OS 9 and OS X



le're not sure if this is for composers or for chatter bugs, but Ringtone Converter can convert the cell-phone ring tones you can find on the Internet in RTTTL or Nokia Keypress

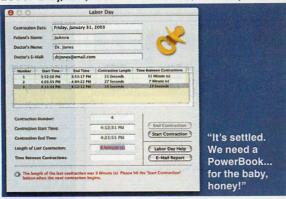
formats to one your own cell phone accepts. There's a caveat: You must have a cell phone that the software supports-check the list at www.ringtonesoftware.com/phones.html. You can also choose from a bunch of included melodies such as the theme from The X-Files (gotta have that!). If you're musically inclined, you can even compose your own tune.



FUN: 7 USEFULNESS: 7 WEIRDNESS: 7

Who Said Labor Pains Aren't Fun?

Labor Day, free, www.ifthensoft.com, OS X only



his one is only useful if you're expecting a child. Labor Day records the length of contractions and the time

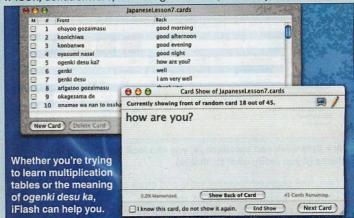
between them. All you have to do is click a button to start timing (if only labor were that simple). When you decide it's time, you can even email the report to your doctor. OK, so a pen, paper, and stopwatch might be an equally convenient set of tools for the job, but at least you can tell people that a Mac helped deliver your baby.



WEIRDNESS: 9

Flash-Card Flashbacks

iFlash, donationware, www.mcgavern.com, OS X only



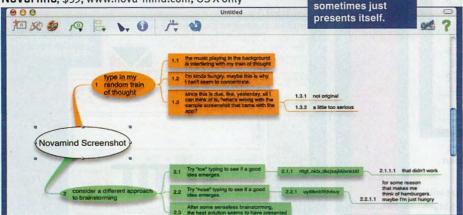
hen it comes to memorization, it's hard to beat good Wold-fashioned flash cards. iFlash is a free virtual flash-card maker. You can set it to show cards in random order. You can also choose whether you want to show the front or back of the card (or a combination, chosen at random). For example, if you're learning Spanish, you can have iFlash display the English side for you to guess the Spanish counterpart, or vice versa. You can also check off the cards you've aced so you can concentrate on

FUN: 3

USEFULNESS: 9 WEIRDNESS: 6

Let Your Mac Do Your Thinking

NovaMind, \$59, www.nova-mind.com, OS X only



catterbrained? Here's a tool for organizing your complex thought patterns into a concise, organized map (a process called mind mapping). The software is good for brainstorming, when you want to get your ideas down as fast as you can think. Start with a central idea and create branches (graphical representations of your train of thought). You'll end up with a map of your ideas, which you can rearrange into a concise form. The concept might sound weird if you've never done mind mapping (hence our weirdness rating of 9), but once you use it, you may find it's an indispensable tool.



the ones you're having trouble with.

With nonstop typing, the solution

Be Serenaded

Jared, free, www.freeverse.com. OS 9 and OS X



o shareware article would be complete without mentioning the ultimate must-have-but-don'tneed title, Jared. This little yellow face sings on your desktop or in your Dock. Jared has even appeared in a Blockbuster Video commercial, although don't let that fool you-his talent is questionable. He has

received an Aqua face-lift since his Classic days, but old-schoolers can switch Jared back to the pixelated yellow orb that made him famous.



FIIN: 10 USEFULNESS: -1 WEIRDNESS: 10

Andrew Tokuda does video editing, produces music, and writes regularly for MacAddict. Andrew Tokuda does video editing, produces maste, and writes regardly.

Once he learns how to juggle bowling pins blindfolded, he'll have achieved his life's ambitions.



PIRST EDITION ALLIED ASSAULT CENTRAL EUROPE

PERST EDITION ALLIED

EXPANSION PACK



I AUNCH YOUR NEXT

ASSAUTUT



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 12 new multiplayer maps spanning the European Theatre of Operations.





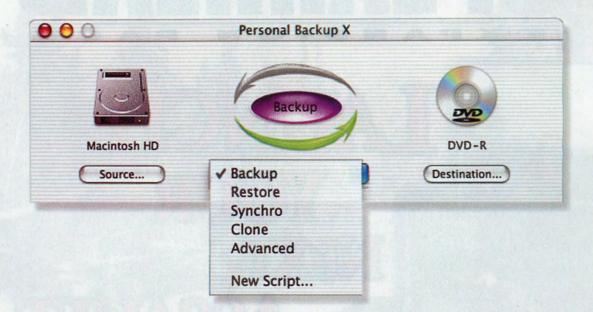




Violenc

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REVIEWS 4



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The**Hot**List 62 The best of the best from recent reviews.

Compatible with Mac OS X or later.



Compatible with Mac OS 9 or earlier.



If we were shopping for this type of product, this is the one we'd buy.

Mac Addict

MacAddict RATED **AWESOME**

You'll be blown away.

MacAddict RATED GREAT

You'll be impressed.

MacAddict RATED 00000 SOLID

You'll be satisfied.

MacAddict RATED 00000 **SO-SO**

You'll be disappointed.

MacAddict RATED 00000 LOUSY

You'll be pissed off.

I hen it rains, it pours. This month we're thoroughly soaked in new Apple hardware, including the biggest-ever PowerBook, the fastest-ever Power Mac tower (pictured here), and another 17-inch, flat-panel iMac with a milestone or two under its belt—it's the first iMac to break the gigahertz barrier, and the first consumer Mac to adopt the next-generation system architecture introduced with the Xserve. What'd we do with all those Macs? Why, we loaded them up with the likes of FreeHand MX and Tony Hawk's Pro Skater 3, then locked it all down with our new favorite gizmo—the Puppy Suite fingerprint-authentication security system.



17-Inch PowerBook G4

NOTEBOOK

"This sucker be big!" That's the first thought that crossed our minds as we eased Apple's new 17-inch PowerBook G4 out of its protective packaging. "It looks like a portable Xserve," cracked one especially wiseass editor. This new aluminum PowerBook may have reached—or possibly exceeded—the reasonable size limit of a portable computer.

There's a lot to be said in favor of Jobs's Big Boy: It's the fastest PowerBook we've ever tested; its construction is both muscular and elegant; its screen is big, bright, and beauteous—but whether you decide to drop a cool \$3,299 on one should be based on how you feel about accepting a 15.4-by-10.2-by-1.0-inch, 6.8-pound leviathan into your mobile life.

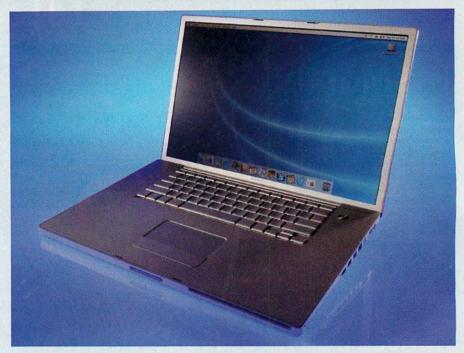
This laptop is not for everyone. If you're a garden-variety road warrior who's simply taking your word processing, spreadsheet wrangling, and emailing on the road, the 17-inch PowerBook G4 is overkill. If, however, you need a portable machine for

If you're a garden-variety road warrior, the 17-inch PowerBook G4 is overkill.

image editing, video production, or audio processing, the extra oomph and Texas-size screen acreage may well be worth getting a membership in 24 Hour Fitness.

Or you may simply want to replace your desktop Mac with a big-screen PowerBook that you can haul back and forth from work to home, size be damned. After all, in these recessionary times, we're all working both at the office during the day and at home at night, right? It's highly convenient to have your office and home Mac be one and the same.

If you do decide that size doesn't matter, you'll be happy to know that the 17-inch PowerBook G4—though not flawless—is one fine machine. Its scratch-resistant anodized aluminum case surrounds a sturdy magnesium frame and a lid rigid enough to protect the PowerBook's way-big TFT LCD



Is it gargantuan, humongous, Brobdingnagian, or all three combined?

screen from warping and cracking. The lid's hinge—don't ignore the fine touches—is a marvel of detailed engineering; its helical counter-balance spring tensioner keeps it solidly secure at any angle, and its dropdown construction (à la iBook) allows the

mongo screen to be only a wee bit taller than that of the 15-inch TiBook. Yes, it'll fit on your coach-class tray table. Barely.

The 17-incher's keyboard is a classic case of good news and bad news. The good: This is easily the best-feeling keyboard of any PowerBook we've had the pleasure to stroke. The keys are solidly responsive, have a good range of travel, and are easy to read—except for that weird upside-down-W between the N and the comma.

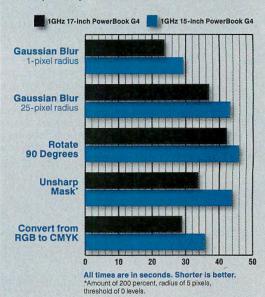
Even better, when the lights go down, the keys-actually, just the letters on the keysautomatically light up, thanks to ambient light sensors hidden in each speaker grille and a web of 270 fiber-optic threads underlying the keyboard. This feature may sound like a mere gee-whiz gimmick, but in our experience, unassisted lowlight typing often turns "Apple Computer" into "S[[;r Vp,[iyrt." What's more, if you're using a 17-inch PowerBook G4 to run your audio mix in a dark club

when you're opening for BT (check out "Mac Maestro," March/02, p31), being able to see your keyboard is essential.

But there's bad news as well: Apple engineers placed the keyboard up against the screen—a design choice that works fine

Equals Aren't

The top-of-the-line 15-inch PowerBook has a 1GHz G4 processor. The new 17-inch PowerBook has a 1GHz G4 processor. They should perform equally well, right? Wrong. Thanks to its fast 167MHz system bus and new system architecture, the 17-incher breezed through our Photoshop 7 test suite up to 30 percent faster than the TiBook.





Removing the battery reveals the underside of the trackpad. In the compartment next to the battery well, you can upgrade RAM to 1GB.



2.6 vertical centimeters never looked so good.



This is our favorite keyboard in the history of keyboards.

for smaller PowerBooks, but doesn't work for the vast expanses of the 17-inch PowerBook G4. With the keyboard so far from the front of the machine, your wrists scrape against the PowerBook's front edge while you're typing. Annoying. Really annoying.

Oh, and while we're carping, we'd like to mention that the latch that releases the PowerBook's lid is strictly from nowheresville, daddy-o. It takes a concerted effort to finger it exactly the way it demands to be fingered before it'll allow the lid to spring free. Apple PR calls it a "security enhancement"-we call it a mistake.

The keyboard's compatriot, the trackpad, is better behaved. Its driver software, accessed through the System Preferences' Mouse pane, includes an Ignore Trackpad While Typing option that Apple describes as a "palm rejection" capability-if you

brush the trackpad with your hand while it's engaged, your cursor won't jump erratically. If you enable tapping and double-tapping to emulate clicking and double-clicking, however, prepare to tap rather hard on the trackpad to work your will.

The 17-Inch PowerBook G4 has ports for days. On the left (front to back) you'll find audio out and in, a PC Card slot, USB, a V.92 modem, power, and a Kensington-style security slot. On the right: USB, FireWire 400, FireWire 800, 10/100/1,000Base-T Ethernet, S-Video. and DVI. On the back: nothing.

The two USB ports are notable for the fact that each has its own full-bandwidth. full-power root hub. The Ethernet port-like that on most Macs released in the past couple of years-is smart enough to know not only whether it's connected to a slow, fast, or Gigabit Ethernet network,

> but also whether it needs to emulate a straight-through or crossover connection.

The 17-inch PowerBook G4 is also a full-fledged member of the brave new world of wireless connectivity, with both 802.11g-compliant AirPort Extreme and Bluetooth onboard (see "Extreme Wireless." May/03, p20). Thanks to its screen-flanking antennae, the 17-incher gets far better AirPort range than any previous portable. Walking away from the

Base Station, we got a good 50 feet farther (both indoors and out) with the 17-inch PowerBook than we did with a TiBook; even the new 12-inch PowerBook-which has the same integrated antennae-dropped the signal about 40 feet before the jumbo model did. Bluetooth performance was, well, Bluetooth performance. It works.

The 17-inch PowerBook's audio abilities, based on Apple's Snapper audio circuitry, provide surprisingly hearty sound for a laptop, but its tiny-though not tinny-speakers make both bass and treble somewhat illusory. One advantage of the extreme width of this unit is that it has far better stereo separation than most notebooks.

Video performance impresses as well. An nVidia GeForce4 440 Go video chip with 64MB of DDR SDRAM on an AGP 4X

bus allows this PowerBook to push pixels as well as any Apple laptop to date. It also supports six different display possibilities: the onboard 1,440-by-900-pixel, 16:10, 100-dpi LCD display; the DVI port; ADC, using Apple's \$99 DVI-to-ADC adapter; VGA, using the supplied DVI-to-VGA adapter; the S-Video port; and a supplied S-Video-tocomposite-video adapter. You can connect an external monitor as a second display with a resolution of up to 2,048 by 1,536 at 24-bit color, as a mirrored display, or as a primary display with the 17-inch PowerBook G4's lid closed.

Although the PowerBook's hard drive sits on a fast Ultra ATA/100 bus, at 4,200 rpm it's rather lackadaisical (compared to the d2 200GB FireWire 800 drive; see our review on p47). Also quite relaxed is its SuperDrive, which—contrary to early reports-is limited to 1X speed. According to an Apple spokesperson, although some of its suppliers' drives can achieve 2X write speeds, Apple decided to keep every SuperDrive throttled down to 1X, the lowest common denominator. Damn.

Battery power is good, but not great: 55 watt-hours as compared to the TiBook battery's 61-and with such a humongous screen to light, we experienced just 3-hour battery longevity in normal use.

Where the 1GHz 17-inch PowerBook G4 does shine, however, is in good old-fashioned butt-kicking speed. Our tests showed that the new PowerBook handles common Photoshop tasks up to 30 percent faster than a 1GHz TiBook (see "Equals Aren't," p42), and can convert a 2GB DV file to MPEG-4 over 60 percent faster. Part of the credit goes to the 17-incher's 167MHz system bus (25 percent faster than the TiBook's 133MHz), and part to its DDR SDRAM system architecture and new Intrepid memory controller and I/O chip, features it shares with the 12-inch PowerBook (see Reviews, Apr/03, p46).

Overall, this is one interesting machine. Too big to be a notebook. Fast. Great for those who need high-performance mobility. Solid. An ideal desktop replacement. Gorgeous. Encumbered by slow storage. Expensive.

The bottom line? If you want to buy us one, we'd be more than happy to take it off your hands .- Rik Myslewski

COMPANY: Apple www.apple.com **PRICE:** \$3,299

SPECS: 1GHz G4, 1MB L3 cache, 512MB PC2700 DDR SDRAM, CONTACT: 800-795-1000, 167MHz system bus, 60GB Ultra ATA/100 hard drive, nVidia GeForce4 440 Go 4X AGP graphics with 64MB DDR SDRAM, 10/100/1,000Base-T Ethernet, AirPort Extreme, Bluetooth, V.92 modem, SuperDrive

GOOD NEWS: Huge. Fast. Bright display. Solid construction. Backlit keyboard. Great AirPort range. BAD NEWS: Huge. Poorly placed keyboard. Hard-to-open screen latch. 1X DVD-R SuperDrive.





PHOTOGRAPHY BY MARK MADEO

Dual 1.42GHz Power Mac

G4 TOWER

/ hen Apple's new top-of-the-line pro G4 tower, the Dual 1.42GHz Power Mac, arrived in our lab, our first concern wasn't whether its faster processor and 2MB-per-processor L3 caches made it noticeably snappier than its predecessors, or whether its new FireWire 800 port gave file transfers an appreciable boost. No, it was whether-unlike with first-generation Mirrored Drive Door Power Macs-you could actually hear yourself think when the big ol' beast was running.

After firing it up, we're happy to report that although the new power supply in the Dual 1.42GHz Power Mac isn't exactly what you'd call whisper-quiet, it's a vast improvement. Thanks, Apple, for listening—even though we're surprised you could hear the chorus of complaints over the noise of the original fans.

After basking for a moment in the serenity of the new Dualie's peace and quiet, we put it through its paces. Its raw performance is not a vast leap ahead of its slightly slower siblings', but we saw an appreciable improvement in most tasks.

Compared to an original Mirrored Drive Door Dual 1GHz Power Mac when running Photoshop tasks, for example, it performed 1-pixel Gaussian blurs in essentially the same amount of time, while its RGB-to-CMYK conversions and unsharp-mask filters were noticeably snappier (see "Step...by...Step," right).

Video rendering also benefited incrementally from the Dual 1.42GHz's enhancements. When we used QuickTime Pro 6 to export a 2GB DV file as MPEG-



It may look like Sim City, but this stack of copper plates is actually a heat sink.

4, the new Dualie finished the task in 6 minutes and 32 seconds; the Dual 1GHz took 6 minutes and 50 seconds to export the same file. Not a big deal, but appreciated. (To compare to an earlier system design, it took our friendly neighborhood QuickSilver Dual 1GHz Power Mac a full 8 minutes and 36 seconds to accomplish the same task.)

More impressive was the speed boost supplied by the Dual 1.42GHz's new single FireWire 800 port. We used a just-released LaCie d2 200GB FireWire 800 drive for our tests (see Reviews, p47). When we plugged the d2 into the FireWire 800 port, writing a 2GB file to the d2 from the Dualie's internal 7,200-rpm, 120GB Ultra ATA/100 Seagate Barracuda V was well over 40 percent faster than the same operation with the d2 plugged into one of the Dual's two FireWire 400 ports. When we read the same file from the d2 to the Dual, the improvement was just under 30 percent.

As might be guessed, small-file transfer speeds-which are limited more by the capabilities of the operating system than the drive and its cabling-showed far less improvement: Reading a folder stuffed with



Go ahead, put your ear to the page. Quieter, isn't it?

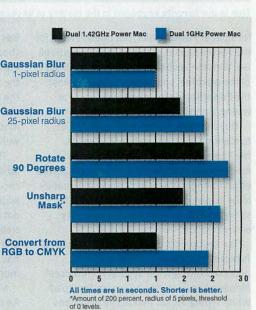
50MB of 4K files from the d2 to the Dual was a hair over 10 percent faster using FireWire 800 than FireWire 400; when writing the same folder to the d2, we saw no noticeable difference.

No fanfare, no shouting-the Dual 1.42GHz is just a solid, incremental improvement in the Power Mac line, with a cool new FireWire port. All in all, this Power Mac is, shall we say, a quiet success. -Rik Myslewski

Step...by...Step

The Dual 1.42GHz Power Mac not only takes a small step in processor performance, but also ups the silicon ante by doubling each processor's L3 cache to 2MB. We tested it against a firstgeneration Mirrored Drive Door Dual 1GHz Power Mac to better show the incremental progress between generations. The Dual 1.25GHz falls between these two in performance.

We tested in Photoshop 7 using a 115MB PSD file. Both Power Macs were equipped with 512MB of RAM. The Dual 1GHz Power Mac was running Mac OS 10.2, the OS with which it shipped. The Dual 1.42GHz Power Mac was running Mac OS 10.2.4, with which it shipped.



COMPANY: Apple CONTACT: 800-795-1000 or PRICE: \$2,699

SPECS: Dual 1.42GHz G4 processors, each with 256K on-chip L2 cache and 2MB L3 cache; 167MHz system bus; 408-996-1010, www.apple.com 512MB PC2700 DDR SDRAM; 120GB ATA/100 hard drive; SuperDrive; 64MB ATI Radeon 9000 Pro graphics card

GOOD NEWS: Fast. Quiet(er). Highly expandable. FireWire 800. Bluetooth and AirPort Extreme ready. BAD NEWS: Processor's design doesn't take full advantage of DDR SDRAM. Still a bit loud.





THE TOURNAMENT RETURNS TO MACINTOSH THIS SPRING

















MacSoft

www.macsoftgames.com

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1GHz iMac

17-INCH LCD G4 IMAC

ith its beauteous 17-inch LCD and mighty 1GHz G4 processor, the latest iMac does its family proud. More than just a speed-bumped version of the previous (800MHz) iMac G4, this one includes some of the next-generation technologies (such as DDR RAM and support for Bluetooth and AirPort Extreme networking) but omits others (such as FireWire 800); unfortunately, though, some of its quirks are starting to grow on us-in a bad way.

The iMac still ships with 256MB of RAM (with the same 1GB total RAM capacity)but the RAM is the higher-performance DDR variety (PC2100 at 266MHz). Backing up the faster RAM is a 133MHz system bus (previously 100MHz) and a bigger. faster storage system-80GB of Ultra ATA/100 (previously 60GB of Ultra ATA/66) on a 7,200-rpm drive-just the ticket for home-iMovie production. This iMac is also primed for the next generation of wireless networking, with built-in support for an AirPort Extreme card (\$99 from Apple) and Bluetooth support via an internal module (a \$50 build-to-order option) or

The honeymoon's over, but we're still in love.

an external dongle (\$49.95 from Apple). which you can purchase later. Throw in an 8X-by-4X SuperDrive (Pioneer's DVR-105 in our test unit), which reads and burns DVDs twice as fast as its predecessor did, and the desktop multimedia revolution is in full swing. We only wish that SuperDrive was double-speed all around; the CD specs of 16X (write)/8X (rewrite)/32X (read) remain unimpressive.

In terms of software, the iMac comes preloaded with a generous consumer bundle for multimedia (iLife's iDVD, iMovie, iPhoto, and iTunes, plus Felt Tip Software's Sound Studio for entry-level audio production); productivity (apps like AppleWorks 6, Faxstf X, Quicken 2003, and World Book 2003); and fun (games like Otto Matic and Deimos Rising).

We still love the iMac G4, but the



iMac, uMac, we all scream for a 1GHz iMac.

proverbial honeymoon is over; in the 15 months we've had one in the office, certain less-than-endearing features have become truly annoying (although on a good day, they still seem pretty trivial).

For starters, the screen is slightly crooked-looked at straight on, the display tilts about a degree to the left, as we noted in our first iMac G4 review (May/02, p46). Much as we dig the extra screen real estate brought by that 17-inch LCD, those added inches also make the screen's tilt more apparent. Once we moved the iMac to a desk where it wasn't directly juxtaposed against arrow-straight window blinds, the crooked screen never really bothered us-but knowing it's not perfect still does.

Additionally, the iMac is all about space efficiency: the all-inone design, the petite footprint, the ergonomically adjustable neck. So who missed the fact that if you put the keyboard right up against the base, it blocks the optical drive door? You have to move the keyboard about half an inch away from the base (or turn the base sideways) to open the optical drive. We'd expect this kind of shortsighted design compromise in a Dell, but not in a Mac (a revised Mac no less-this

problem also plagued the original iMac G4).

Of course, some of the iMac's subtleties grow on us in that good, warm-and-fuzzy way-for instance, when you remove the bottom cover to add RAM or an AirPort card, the screws remain in the cover so you won't lose them. And we're delighted to say that after a year of constant use, our old iMac's screen (albeit 15 inches, not 17) moves just as smoothly and holds its position just as solidly as it did the day it arrived in our office-that's reassuring.

You always expect more from the ones you love, right? That's our motto; we love the LCD iMac enough to accommodate its flaws, but not enough to overlook them. -Niko Coucouvanis



If your desk is really small, you might encounter this little door-jam problem.



COMPANY: Apple CONTACT: 800-795-1000 or **PRICE: \$1,999**

SPECS: 1GHz PowerPC G4 processor with 256K of Level 2 cache, 256MB SDRAM, 80GB ATA/100 408-996-1010, www.apple.com hard drive, nVidia GeForce4 MX with 32MB VRAM, SuperDrive, Apple Pro Speakers

GOOD NEWS: Totally adjustable screen. Great software bundle. Good speakers included.

BAD NEWS: Screen isn't quite level. Soft keyboard. CD drive is slow.



d2 200GB

FIREWIRE 800 DESKTOP HARD DRIVE

ireWire 800 drives are finally here—and if LaCie's d2 200GB FireWire 800 drive is any indication of what they have to offer, we welcome them with open arms.

When we tested the d2 attached to the FireWire 800 port of a brand-spanking-new Dual 1.42GHz Power Mac, our transfers of 2GB files from the Power Mac to the d2 were well over 40 percent faster than when we attached it to the FireWire 400 port; transfers in the opposite direction were nearly 30 percent faster. Pretty slick.

That said, when we attached the same drive to an equally brand-spanking-new 17-inch PowerBook G4, the PowerBook's

This small, quiet drive can be a real time-saver.

pokey internal Toshiba 4,200-rpm drive choked the d2's performance: In both reads and writes of the same 2GB file, the improvement hovered around a measly 3 percent.

Reading and writing small files on both systems also saw little improvement: The biggest speedup occurred while reading from the d2 to the Power Mac: around 10 percent. Writing small files to the Power



LaCie's new FireWire 800 makes a big difference—some of the time.

Mac-tethered d2, and both reading to and writing from the PowerBook, showed essentially no improvement at all.

But there's a twist: The d2 will actually benefit you *more* if you have a slow internal drive: Just load all your big files onto it, and bypass your sluggardly internal drive altogether (see "Opening Photoshop Files," below).

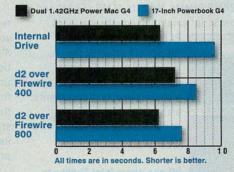
Whatever Mac you plug into, there's no denying it—this small, quiet drive can be a real time-saver if your work involves large files.—*Rik Myslewski*

Opening Photoshop Files

If your Mac is lumbered by a slow internal drive, the LaCie d2 200GB FireWire 800 drive can help. In this test, we used a Dual 1.42GHz Power Mac G4 and a 17-inch PowerBook G4 to open a 115MB Photoshop file on each machine's internal drive and on a d2 drive attached to the Macs' FireWire 800 and 400 ports. The internal drive in the Power Mac

is fast; our FireWire 800 test showed little improvement, and FireWire 400 slowed things down. The internal drive in the PowerBook is slow; the file opened noticeably faster over FireWire. A few seconds' improvement may not seem like much, but if you're working with mongo files all day, those seconds add up mighty fast.

We tested using Photoshop 7, Both the Power Mac and the PowerBook were equipped with 512MB of RAM and were running Mac OS 10.2.4.

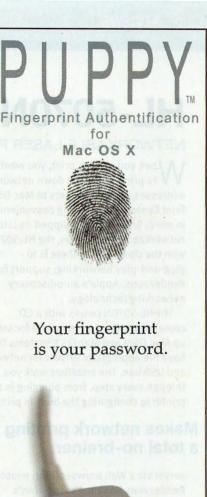


COMPANY: LaCie **CONTACT:** 503-844-4502, www.lacie.com **PRICE:** \$469 (200GB), \$599 (250GB) REQUIREMENTS: FireWire-equipped Mac, Mac OS 10.2.4 or later; FireWire 800 port highly recommended

GOOD NEWS: Speedily transfers large files to and from systems with fast internal drives. Quickly opens large files. Solidly built. Quiet.

BAD NEWS: Not much faster when transferring small files, or when transferring files to and from systems with slow internal drives.







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HL-5070N

NETWORKABLE LASER PRINTER

When you want to print, you want to print—not track down network addresses and add printers to Mac OS X's Print Center. With printing convenience in mind, Brother has equipped its latest networkable laser printer, the HL-5070N, with the closest thing there is to plug-and-play networking: support for Rendezvous, Apple's autodiscovery networking technology.

The HL-5070N comes with a CD containing individual installers for setting up Mac OS 9 and Mac OS X systems that have the appropriate drivers for network and USB use. The installers walk you through every step, from plugging in the printer to configuring the built-in print

Makes network printing a total no-brainer.

server via a Web browser (hint: enable Rendezvous Bookmarks in Safari's Preferences, otherwise press the printer's Go button three times to print a status page, wherein you'll find the IP address). After that, we pressed Command-P to print up a Web page and found the printer already loaded in the browser's Printer list, ready for action.

Installing the USB driver is equally painless and likewise doesn't involve Print Center. If you install both the USB and network drivers, however, you'll still want to visit Print Center to reconfigure the printer with more-specific names than the default HL-5070N Series for





With Brother's
Rendezvousaware HL-5070N,
you may never use
Mac OS X's Print
Center again.

USB-connected mode, and Brother HL-5070N Series (BRN_38727C_P1_AT) for networked. We've come to expect USB printers to arrive sans USB cable, but we still hate scrambling for a \$10 connector to use the printer we just shelled out big bucks to buy.

Setting up this printer was such a joy that actually *using* it was kind of anticlimactic. For starters, it's a laser, so it takes a few seconds (15 to 30) of warm-up time before starting a job. It's also fairly loud, though in typical use we wouldn't park the printer on our desk, as we did for this evaluation (it would fit, though, as it measures a reasonable 15.0 by 15.8 by 9.9 inches).

The HL-5070N's stock 16MB of RAM isn't enough for serious workgroup printing, but you can expand it to 144MB (\$80 for 128MB at press time) via an easy-access slot behind the side cover. The manual suggests Techworks RAM (www.techworks.com) and lists part numbers for 16MB, 32MB, 64MB, and 128MB DIMMs. With its 16MB of RAM and PostScript emulation (via the standard

PCL6 and Brother's own BR-Script3 drivers), the HL-5070N printed almost everything we threw at it, including epic text documents, architectural blueprints, and a massive PDF file. In

Whoop, there it is! Thanks to its Rendezvous savoir-faire, the HL-5070N practically sets itself up. fact, 65MB of layers, transparencies, and PostScript fonts didn't stump this printer, though complex pages took some time to materialize (more than 6 minutes for the above-mentioned one-page PDF). Where the HL-5070N failed us was on a six-page Adobe InDesign document; Print Center spun its wheels for almost an hour with the message "Sending the print file" before the job mysteriously disappeared from the queue. The printer had no problem on less-demanding InDesign jobs; it spit out our April issue's table of contents (a three-page, 6.5MB file) in 7 minutes and change.

We burned through the full 300-sheet capacity (250 in the main paper tray, plus 50 in the auxiliary tray) in just under 18 minutes, printing Homer's *Odyssey* in 12-point, double-spaced Courier at 300 dpi. Do the math, and you get just a hair less the claimed 17 pages per minute. Most printers don't come close to their claimed optimal speeds, so we were impressed. Print quality is, as expected, laser-sharp, with smooth gradients.

Using a networked printer generally requires that you first add the printer to your list of available printers via Mac OS X's Print Center (or Mac OS 9's Chooser). Usually it's a simple matter of selecting the printer by name or network address from a list; sometimes you have to enter the network address manually, which is still easy enough. But the HL-5070N's Rendezvous support makes network printing a total no-brainer.

Bottom line: If you need the most Mac OS X-friendly, networkable laser printer available with good performance to boot, this one's for you.—Niko Coucouvanis



COMPANY: Brother **CONTACT:** 888-879-3232 or 908-704-1700, www.brother.com **PRICE:** \$499.99 REQUIREMENTS: USB- or Ethernet-equipped Mac, Mac OS 8.6 to 9.x or 10.1 or later (10.2.1 or later required for Rendezvous support)

GOOD NEWS: Practically sets itself up. Good speed and quality. Upgradable. BAD NEWS: Loud. Expensive.



FreeHand MX

GRAPHICS SOFTWARE

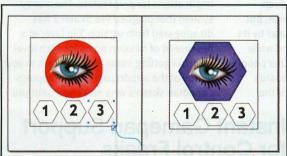
ike any good rivalry, the relationship between Macromedia's FreeHand and Adobe Illustrator is a perpetual match of one-upmanship. FreeHand comes out with new features and interfaces community, and a year or two later the newest Illustrator version contains similar added content with better integration and usability. With FreeHand MX, Macromedia is back on top—for the time being, anyway.

FreeHand MX (FreeHand 11 if you're keeping score) is a powerful vector-based drawing and layout program that combines raster effects with the potential of near photo-realism. This application tackles many chores for print and Web designers, such as logos, buttons, icons, illustrations, and even animation. It's the spackle of the Studio MX family, plugging the gaps

It's got the fit, finish, and family integration Illustrator still only dreams of.

between Macromedia's professional tools for drawing, print publication, layout, Web graphics, and Flash animation.

FreeHand's graphics tools are powerful and familiar. For example, the extrude tool

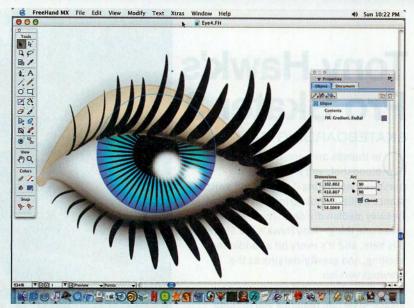


FreeHand's action tool makes it easy to animate your artwork, courtesy of Flash's ActionScript.

is much like the 3D Transform option in KPT Vector Effects or portions of Adobe Dimensions—it has the ability to force



your flat primitives into three dimensions while controlling lighting, rotation, and vanishing



FreeHand, now MXed like the rest of Macromedia's stable, remains a staple of professional illustrators and graphic artists.

points. The difference is that you can edit and spell-check your text after applying extrude (but not if you apply a rotate or transform as well). Illustrators will find this a powerful tool combined with the Perspective Grid view option. Throw in an enhanced blend tool and an intuitive erase tool (borrowed from Flash), and you're drawing in style.

FreeHand lets you apply multiple attributes and effects to a single object. This is useful, but managing the effects in the new Object panel can get a little

confusing. We found ourselves flipping between the Layers and Objects panels too often while creating complex illustrations. A customizable option to combine the abilities of the Object and Layers panels would be incredibly useful.

Another new feature, the connector tool, specializes in connecting objects with straight lines. This tool was made especially for

flowcharting. After you add a little zing with the extrude tool, visually connect text boxes and objects with the connector tool, and presto: Web-based presentations actually look decent.

Web designers will appreciate FreeHand's powerful integration with Macromedia's

Flash and Fireworks apps. The new action tool applies ActionScript commands, so you can create storyboards, Flash-style click-throughs, and Web navigation without leaving FreeHand. You can also place, preview, and export your SWF files like a real Flash wizard (without Flash). Furthermore, you can animate without timelines using the Release To Layers effect (based on adding successive layers on top of the bottom layer until the entire layered object appears). FreeHand finally supports imported Alpha channels, so mask and use transparency to your heart's content; and surprise-FreeHand's improved vector transparency transfers to Flash.

FreeHand MX can also handle heavy-duty publication design. The multiple-page environment includes master-page capabilities and smoothly creates pages based on the original. A global find-and-replace option allows you to replace a specific graphic throughout your FreeHand document. A selectable output area helps you print (or publish to Flash) only those items you want from a chaotic pasteboard.

This is the second Mac OS X-native version of FreeHand, and it's got the fit, finish, and family integration Illustrator still only dreams of. New features and tools, better stability, and seamless program compatibility make FreeHand MX a good contender for future standards.

—Matt Osborn

COMPANY: Macromedia CONTACT: 800-457-1774 or 415-252-2000, www.macromedia.com PRICE: \$399, \$99 (upgrade) **REQUIREMENTS:** G3, Mac OS 9.1 or 10.1 or later, 64MB RAM (128MB recommended)

GOOD NEWS: More stable than previous version. Better PostScript drawing and preview. Smooth integration with other Studio MX apps. BAD NEWS: Mac version doesn't support WMF and EMF files. Interface icons and layer system need a face-lift. Extrude tool could be way cooler.



Tony Hawk's Pro Skater 3

SKATEBOARDING GAME

our thumbs are sore, our eyes bloodshot, and we've caught ourselves wondering if we can pull switchstance nollie-to-nosegrinds on the local freeway median dividers. This can only mean one thing—Tony Hawk's Pro Skater 3 is here, and it's every bit as addicting, exciting, and gravity-defying as the previous version.

For the uninitiated, this is fast-action, arcade-style fun, requiring you to skate around, do tricks, collect points, and perform tasks to unlock each successive level. You score the biggest points by compiling one spinning-flying-sliding trick after another into a long string of grinds, grabs, flips, and manuals (wheelies). Fall on

This game will wreak havoc on your job productivity.

your butt halfway through such a string, and whoosh—you've nullified the whole series.

To get the rapid-fire button combos right requires fast fingers and almost certainly a USB gamepad controller (see "Instant Gamepad Support for Control Freaks," below). People put off by twitch-heavy games will not enjoy Pro Skater—though



we enjoy this kind of thumb-numbing action, even we occasionally felt pushed to the edge



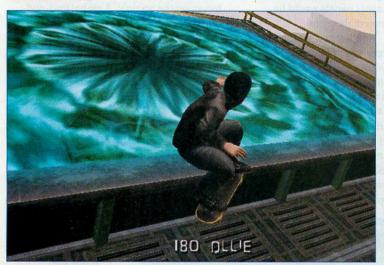
Don't try this at home, kids-Tony Hawk's Pro Skater 3 is the only way to skate L.A.

by the sheer volume and precision of digit dexterity the game demanded. Pro Skater 3 is certain to be responsible for its share of gamepad-meets-wall encounters.

The biggest change in version 3 is the inclusion of online play. Unfortunately, the networking components of Pro Skater 3 were not yet ready at the time of this writing (and will not be included in the original shipping version—you'll need to get a free patch from Aspyr's Web site). We anticipate that these will add even more depth to an already great game, but won't be earth-shattering. Pro Skater by its nature is a single-player game, and while zipping around with a bunch of other people playing capture the flag on skateboards sounds like a hoot, it won't replace the

trick-centric heart of Pro Skater. Just as in real skateboarding, the game doesn't require other people, just you and a board (or in this case, a gamepad).

While online play is the marquee feature of Tony Hawk's Pro Skater 3, a few other additions are worth mentioning. The game features a new Revert move that lets you string together ramp and street moves. Like the inclusion of the wheelies (Manuals) in Pro Skater 2, this is a small change with big implications for point totals. The money system that plagued Pro Skater 2 has disappeared from version 3 in favor of a new breed of mission goals for each level (such as getting some airline tickets to your buddy at the airport, or trying to impress Canadian skaters who mock you until you



No running by the pool—but feel free to grind and railslide all you like.

Instant Gamepad Support for Control Freaks

amepad isn't listed in the Tony Hawk's Pro Skater 3 system requirements, but it should be—it's a console game at heart. However, we noticed that several pads (such as our old Gravis Gamepad Pro USB) don't work with the game. Then we discovered Project Omega's XGamePad Support (free, www.projectomega.org), an application program interface (API) that game developers can use to add gamepad support to their games. End users can use XGamePad Support to patch gamepad support into Mac OS X games they already own; we stuck the (124K) package into our Library Application Support folder and suddenly the Gamepad Pro worked flawlessly (as did other assorted pads we tried, though your mileage may vary).

do well-duh, eh?). These goals could have ended up seeming hokey, but they're actually pretty fun and provide a nice respite from the relentless grinding and flipping as you try to tally higher and higher scores. Last but not least, the levels are bigger and better designed than those in any previous release of the game.

Tony Hawk's Pro Skater 3 does a nice job of pushing this revolutionary series a bit further. It's as fun as ever to play, it still has plenty of hidden stuff, and the levels are just plain outstanding. Our only real complaint

is that it has become quite difficult. The competition rounds in particular can be grueling to get through, ensuring that despite the game's addictive nature, only the most devoted fans will put in the time and effort to get beyond a certain point.

This game will wreak havoc on your social



Grind past the gong in the Tokyo level to discover new territory.

life and job productivity. Try to take a break from Pro Skater and you'll inevitably find yourself magnetically drawn back to your computer for one more attempt at landing that last trick or finishing that next goal. Better start getting your thumbs in shape now.-Robert Capps



Beat the game or enter the right cheat code (check out www.planettonyhawk.com) to unlock the secret Cruise Ship level (and Darth Maul).

COMPANY: ASDV CONTACT: 512-708-8100, www.aspyr.com **PRICE: \$39.99**

REQUIREMENTS: 450MHz G3, Mac OS 9.2.1 or 10.1 or later, 128MB RAM (256MB for OS X), 700MB disc space, ATI Radeon or nVidia GeForce card with 32MB video memory

GOOD NEWS: Addictive gameplay. Smooth graphics. Interesting goals.

BAD NEWS: Occasionally frustrating and repetitive. Too difficult for console-game novices.



"It's about time Pro Skater 3 hit the Mac platform. I won't go into details as to why it takes so long to get a successful PlayStation-PC game made for Mac or the politics involved in such a process. I will only say that the potential of the Mac as a gaming system has not been fully realized, and I am doing my best to help change that. Now, on to making the best of your gaming experience.

"One key to scoring big in Pro Skater 3 is learning the revert-to-manual function. You can pull big vert tricks and link them to other street gaps and combos seamlessly once you figure out the timing.

"Rio is the easiest level for pulling a big trick combo. Grind one of the benches on the sidewalk near the street, then manual to grind the next obstacle, and so on around the block. Make sure to hit the curved benches and walls on the corners to avoid going into the street. If you can hit some special grinds in the combos, you can easily rack up over a million points in one run.

"My last hint involves Tokyo, but it takes practice. Grind the upper ledges, wall-riding higher and higher until you reach the top ledge and grind past the gong-you will find that the level is much bigger than you thought.

"These are merely my suggestions. For detailed hints, go to www.planettonyhawk.com. Thanks for supporting our game, and thanks to Apple for the incredible platform." -Tony Hawk





Puppy Suite

FINGERPRINT-PASSWORD SYSTEM

Years ago (circa 1999) when Apple introduced voice-recognition—based password authentication in Mac OS 9, Steve Jobs's buzz phrase "My voice is my password" was cool. Puppy Suite's motto is even cooler—"My fingerprint is my password"—and unlike voice verification, this system lets your fingerprint do the talking, so you can use it in church. Like the now-extinct voice authentication, fingerprinting has little or no security advantage over a typed password, but it sure makes you look cool (or like a dork, depending on the eye of the beholder).

It recognized our touch even when we had blackened fingers.

The Puppy Suite hardware is an unobtrusive USB-tethered pad (made by Sony), housing a capacitance sensor (a biometric scanner that recognizes electric current instead of light), which the company says won't fall for printed images of fingerprints and never needs cleaning. We still wish the device had a cover—it seems like a scratch or smudge could spoil the party.

The included software installs a Puppy Account system preferences pane; after restarting your Mac, Puppy Suite replaces your regular login window with an enhanced version offering fingerprint authentication (this option isn't available until you launch the preferences pane and enter the license key). The login window hung us up a bit: After we entered our user name, it wouldn't let us click in the password field—if we hadn't known pressing the Tab key would activate the next field, we would have been stuck.

The Puppy Account system preferences pane lets you enter prints for any user account on your Mac (the prints are stored on the USB device, not the Mac, so no security worries there). You specify authentication via password, fingerprint, or both; choose which finger to use; set the security threshold (more on this later);

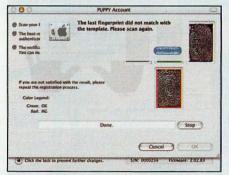
and then press the Train button. From there, the software picks the best of three finger scans, then registers the reference image with another finger scaneach scan requires touching the sensor for about a second. If you've ever been fingerprinted the old inkpad way, this falls just short of magic. You may

want to practice a bit first (hence Puppy Account's Practice button) to get your finger placement down pat.

Securitywise, we couldn't sneak past Puppy Suite. Our more-nefarious friends say capacitance sensors will always fall for



You can use any finger you like for authentication—and the login window always reminds you which one you chose.



We don't know who is training whom; while teaching Puppy your fingerprint, you learn how to get a consistent scan.



Simple software using advanced algorithms makes this Puppy a good watchdog.

a well-crafted fake fingerprint on gelatin or a gummy bear (although our gummybear fake didn't work)-short of a good fake, dismemberment, or coercion, Puppy Suite seems practically impenetrable. A more likely worry is that it'll work too well—especially if you turn up the security threshold very high (the default is 30 on a scale of 10 to 90). We jacked the setting up to 90, and nine times out of ten the device didn't recognize us; however, it recognized us every time at a threshold of 50. We ate a bag of Cheetos to see how the Puppy Suite handled crud-caked fingers-it didn't recognize us, but that's OK. The device really impressed us in less-extreme (and more realistic) testing. It reliably recognized our touch even when we had blackened fingers from changing a car tire.

Bootable FireWire hard drives are Puppy Suite's kryptonite—anyone could boot the Mac from his own drive and help himself to your files with nary a whimper from Puppy. Throw a Mac OS X Install disc—with which anyone can change the Mac's root password—into the mix, and it's all his.

Unless you're predictable enough so that people regularly guess your password (or you're chronically forgetful), you probably don't need fingerprint authentication. As a gimmicky gadget, however, Puppy Suite is choice—it does its trick on command and won't embarrass you by misbehaving when you show it off.—Niko Coucouvanis

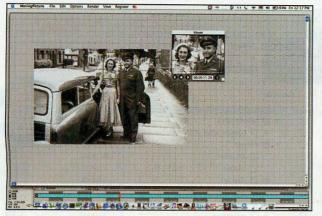


COMPANY: Pacific Software Publishing CONTACT: 425-957-0808, www.puppysuite.com PRICE: \$199 REQUIREMENTS: USB-equipped Mac, Mac OS 10.2 or later, 256MB RAM GOOD NEWS: Huge future-cool factor. Accurate fingerprint recognition.

BAD NEWS: Three words: FireWire boot disk.

Chronically shaky or crusty hands need not apply.





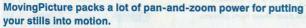




Photo to Movie isn't quite as versatile as MovingPicture, but it looks (and runs) much smoother.

MovingPicture 4.0 and Photo to Movie 1.1.3

PHOTO-EFFECTS SOFTWARE

en Burns didn't invent the technique of jazzing up old still photos by zooming in on a detail, panning across, and pulling back to reveal an entire scene, but he sure popularized the practice. When Apple built that capability into iMovie 3, the company christened it the Ken Burns Effect.

Professionals often use Adobe After Effects, which has scads of special-effects power, to re-create that Ken Burns style.

This is where Photo to Movie and MovingPicture come in. Both let budding documentarians put Burnsian moves on digitized stills and pop them into virtually any nonlinear editor tool, from pro apps by Avid and Media 100 to Adobe Premiere and Apple's Final Cut Pro and Express (even iMovie, if you export to DV format).

Though Photo to Movie and MovingPicture create similar results, they're not peers in direct competition.

Photo to Movie is inexpensive shareware.



Elegantly simple and fun to use, it will delight most novice digital moviemakers (it's also more versatile than iMovie's KB effect).

MovingPicture is a professional tool that
can be tweaked to suit the most demanding
DV editor. Accordingly, it carries a heftier
price tag.

Photo to Movie is a breeze—just drag in a picture to get started. A movable, resizable color overlay indicates the camera viewpoint. You can add keyframes for each important waypoint in the movie and keep track of them in a timeline, then export clips in any of several goof-proof formats, from E-Mail Movie to Full Quality NTSC (DV Stream included). It's totally uncomplicated.

MovingPicture, on the other hand, takes some study, and the online documentation is tedious. MovingPicture comes as a plug-in for your favorite editing package, such as Premiere or Final Cut (Pro only—not Final Cut Express), or as a stand-alone version. The latter is free if you first buy a plug-in, but both come licensed for a single computer. (StageTools also provides a free offline version that does everything except render the output.)

Though it can feel clunky and un-Mac-

like (it takes over your Mac's interface),
MovingPicture performs. It offers alphachannel support for transparency, and its
actions and timing are tweakable down to
the frame level. MovingPicture can render
clips with any of the codecs available on a
Mac running anything from System 7 to Mac
OS X. Windows versions are also available.

Photo to Movie is totally uncomplicated.

Which tool is best for you? For about the same price as a two-pack of DV cassettes, Photo to Movie does a fantastic job.

Moviemakers who have stepped beyond iMovie but don't yet earn a living in video will love it.

MovingPicture, on the other hand, is a pro-level tool with a correspondingly tough learning curve. And it can be finicky—we encountered some glitches that StageTools' prompt tech support quickly resolved. If only this pro tool were as slick to use as Photo to Movie, we'd be all over it.

—Tom Lassiter

MovingPicture 4.0

COMPANY: StageTools CONTACT: 540-592-7001, www.stagetools.com PRICE: \$199 REQUIREMENTS: Power Mac, Mac OS 8 or later **GOOD NEWS:** Works stand-alone or as a plug-in. Alpha-channel support. Offers precise control with excellent results.

BAD NEWS: Not very Mac-like or intuitive. Slightly clunky.

MacAddict RATED



Photo to Movie 1.1.3

COMPANY: LQ Graphics Software CONTACT: http://lqgraphics.com PRICE: \$19.95 REQUIREMENTS: G3, Mac OS 10.1 or later

GOOD NEWS: Small and svelte. Easy to use.
Better results than iMovie.
BAD NEWS: One-trick pony. Results aren't vastly better than iMovie.





Data Rescue X 10.2

DATA-RECOVERY UTILITY

hese are lean times for disk utilities. As Apple finalizes the transition to Mac OS X, new Macs won't boot in Mac OS 9, vet at the time of this writing, many disk utilities (Symantec's Norton Utilities, Micromat's TechTool Pro, Alsoft's Disk Warrior-OK, all of the major disk utilities) still don't run natively in OS X. Wrap your head around that, and rue the day the hard drive in your new Mirrored Drive Door Power Mac running OS 10.2.3 starts clicking in a disturbing way and won't boot up. That's exactly what happened to us: As fate would have it, on the same day we received Prosoft's new Data Rescue recovery utility.

First off, this is not a repair utility—it'll help you recover files from a scrambled disk, but it won't fix the disk. Plus, you need an extra hard drive (besides the

It grabbed our files from a drive other utilities told us was toast.

trashed one), where you'll stash the files you recover. And we'll just say this once: If you have a good backup regimen, you'll never need Data Rescue (and no, we don't often follow that advice ourselves).

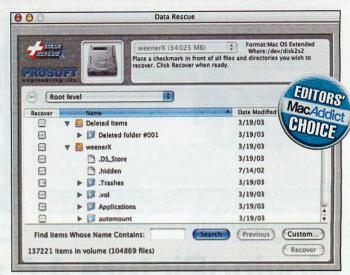
Data Rescue recovered files from a



disk that crashed so hard other disk utilities couldn't even see it. We tried Apple's Disk Utility as well as Norton Disk Doctor, TechTool Pro, and Disk Warrior; we tried them from bootable CDs, from an OS 9-booting FireWire drive, and from the FireWire disk's Classic environment—all to no avail. Then we booted up from the Data Rescue CD. The app mounted our recalcitrant disk

straight away and laboriously scanned the 120GB disk for salvageable files. Within two hours, Data Rescue presented the entire directory of the hard drive, and offered to extract whatever we wanted to an attached FireWire drive (it also supports recovery to a networked volume). We went for broke, selecting a big load of files and letting Data Rescue do its thing. This first attempt was partially successful—the program froze up after rescuing 200MB of files (we verified their integrity on another Mac).

We rebooted from the Data Rescue CD and tried again—this time the program came through, rescuing all our selected files (4GB worth) while we ate lunch. We don't know why the program bailed on the first attempt (unrelated FireWire flakiness, perhaps?), and we obviously can't promise the same stellar performance on every errant disk. Also note that Data Rescue



If your data is worth \$89, get Data Rescue (or just back up your data in the first place).

can't help you if your RAID (redundant array of independent disks) goes down, though Prosoft says RAID support will come in a future release.

One other warning: In the time that we had Data Rescue for review, Apple released the OS 10.2.4 updater—we applied it, and thereafter couldn't boot from the Data Rescue CD until we downloaded the free Data Rescue 10.2 updater from Prosoft's Web site and burned a new boot CD.

For the record, the disk we recovered with Data Rescue had only seen about three months of daily use; a bad B-tree leaf turned out to be the only problem (we suspect a corrupt mailbox shook up the B-tree)—a relatively minor issue. But the fact remains that Data Rescue grabbed our files from a hard drive that other utilities told us was toast. That's great.

-Niko Coucouvanis

Block Content Block #1000002 (\$F4242) - Total blocks: 0 (\$4A84F5A 0000: 8FC0 6000 F205 F32B 0010: 9547 5505 B32E B756 ADER 6377 ADRA D309 7662 1F4B B32C **BB53 B97E** 5F63 5179 FADA SEAE B72E FF6E B2C2 E8A8 D7AA 9868 E830 B9EE 6000 FF3F 9949: RE93 0000 029A FD07 0050: A376 8800 792D 9969 9547 EC7A 3D15 8EBC 9DFD 11FC REF7 F279 F1B7 F177 560B 03A5 BEB3 CF5F 0070: 106E FFF3 E7F1 EEDF 587A B2FC FSDF F63F 3860 0090: 916E 0194 B7F1 F0E1 B672 9547 5707 FF25 E35F 3RF1 F88B C364 ARC2 E6C8 CD6F 7877 7C16 BDAB F7CA 49E2 D22D FFE3 CFE3 9FE2 732B FB30 D5C4 DCA3 9FCA 1858 F89E 9DB0 0000: 00D0: ggEg: D6FE 3BBF 30FC 9966 3EC4 2D2E 7244 FC29 9607 CDFF FF9C 9E8F 252C B000 870B 3000 C5DB FAEB 6EFC 4C7F F939-3F13 1FC6 4184 CORF ODEC CIEC 188D CCBF

Data Rescue even shows you the contents of specific allocation blocks—that's deep.

Two Ounces of Prevention

Data Rescue can get you out of a data-loss jam, and Prosoft makes two other utilities that can help you avoid such dire straits in the future.

Data Recycler (\$49) maintains a secret stash of backups as you work, protecting you from data loss (and major embarrassment) should you accidentally delete a file. Recycler won't help if your main hard drive goes south, because it stores its files there. Data Recycler's hidden talent, EWS (early warning system), scans your drive continually or at scheduled intervals for signs of data corruption.

Data Backup (\$49) is a push-button backup and restore utility for manually or automatically backing up your data to another volume or CD.



COMPANY: Prosoft Engineering CONTACT: 925-426-6100, www.prosofteng.com PRICE: \$89

REQUIREMENTS: G3, Mac OS 10.1.5, 128MB RAM, second hard drive or network volume for recovered files

GOOD NEWS: Mac OS X native. Mounts disks other utilities can't see. Saved our bacon.

BAD NEWS: Your mileage may vary. No repair capabilities













SOMETHING

WICKED

HAS ARRIVED

BLOODRAYNE









Blood and Gore Strong Language Violence

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Expression 3

GRAPHICS SOFTWARE

t version 3. Expression is still more esoteric than full featured compared to its competitors in the realm of vector-based drawing applications. Foremost among Expression's unique features is Skeletal Strokes, which allows you to define a vector object as a brush stroke and use it in a number of ways. The most obvious use would be to make borders or strictly ornamental design elements, but the software ships with a number of examples. which go beyond that and provide inspiration. A number of other applications, including Macromedia FreeHand (see our review on p44) and Adobe Illustrator (Reviews, Mar/02, p44), include a similar function but without the versatility and level of customization present here. Expression also lets you create strokes

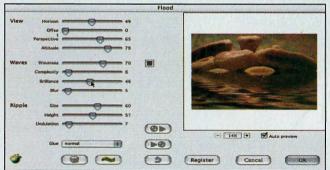
Expression 3 is still more esoteric than full featured.

based on bitmap graphics, which tend to look more natural (in charcoal- and pastel-style drawings), but don't scale as well as vector art does.

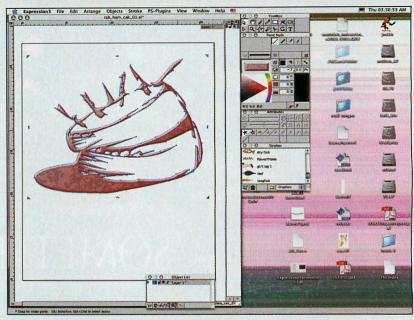
The main strength of this application is the imaginative ways it allows you to combine the merits of vector and bitmap art. In other apps, it's an eitheror proposition, but Expression merges



vector's smooth, scalable (vet uneditable once rendered) lines with bitmap's less-scalable



You can use Photoshop plug-ins in Expression, but some (like Flaming Pear's Flood, shown here) tend to crash the program.



Chrome cakes are where it's at these days-just ask Martha Stewart.

(but always editable) realism. For example, if you want realistic brush strokes, you can create your own, based on an imported scan of a dab of paint.

In addition to the main attraction (Skeletal Strokes), Expression 3 includes a surprising number of little gems for such an affordable program. The Flash (SWF) export makes it easy to create animated widgets for the Web-but nothing too complex; similarly, the trace bitmap function is handy when you're looking to convert a JPG into line art, but it includes fewer options than either stand-alone applications like Adobe Streamline or Flash's built-in trace function. You can use your own reflection maps for chrome-style bevels and specify the lighting direction (but not the bevel shape, à la Eye Candy), and if you tell Expression where your Photoshop plug-ins

> are located, it will use them on raster images (although we had pretty mixed results using Photoshop plugins with Expression).

> While you can create some striking effects in Expression, it's important to keep the final output in mind. As always, low-resolution Webbased illustrations are

fairly easy to keep small but still editable, while projects intended for high-res print jobs require advance planning with that destination in mind. Expression's unusual mix of vector and bitmap drawing dictates that at some point (either upon export, Web publication, or RIP), your files must conform to one or the other standard, be it vector or bitmap. Some of the cooler effects simply vanished when we tried to convert them to other formats, and others ended up unacceptably funkified. The interface takes some getting used to, but the company's developers are fond of reiterating that they're programmers, not necessarily user interface designers.

Expression can import and export the most common types of file formats, but if you're planning to import Illustrator files, make sure they're version 8 or earlier. The export dialog helpfully offers to vectorize bitmapped strokes, but not paper effects or bevels, limiting Expression's use in conjunction with more narrow-minded vector-drawing programs. The lack of an SVG option disappointed us, since it's an open standard. If your vector-drawing needs are modest, you may be able to get by with Expression and no other programs. For more-advanced vector artists, or anyone with the occasional inclination to sketch, the novelty of vector-sketching alone may sell you on Expression 3. -Paul Yoon



COMPANY: Creature House CONTACT: www.creaturehouse.com PRICE: \$149 (download)

REQUIREMENTS: Power Mac. Mac OS 8.6 to 9.x or 10.1 or later, 64MB RAM (128MB RAM in OS X)

GOOD NEWS: Innovative, Affordable, Versatile, BAD NEWS: High cheesiness potential. Nonstandard interface. Lightweight.





Quark users don't have to miss out on the InDesign revolution completely, thanks to ID2Q.

ID2Q

QUARKXPRESS XTENSION

As a quasi-acronym for InDesign to QuarkXPress, ID2Q is the latest XTension for QuarkXPress from Markzware, developer of PM2Q and PM2Q5 (for opening PageMaker documents in QuarkXPress) and FlightCheck (a popular preflighting utility). As the name implies, ID2Q lets QuarkXPress users open InDesign 1.5 to 2,x documents.

After you install ID2Q, opening an Adobe InDesign document is a simple matter of selecting the Convert InDesign Files item from the Utility menu. When you open an InDesign document, a dialog appears with several options for controlling the document's conversion. For text you have the option to import InDesign style sheets, convert styled text to plain text, or remove all text (in case you want to turn the document into a template). The options for pictures are similar: You can convert pictures with or without previews, or you can strip out the pictures and convert only the picture boxes. Also, you have the option of including hidden layers and objects on the pasteboard.



So far, so good—but the list of ID2Q's known limitations reads like the list of InDesign features that QuarkXPress lacks. When you open an InDesign document you lose, among other things, transparency (as in drop shadows, feathered edges, blending modes, and opacity), multicolored gradients (only the start and end colors are converted), tables, layers, master pages based on other master pages, kerning, and any text that's

The list of ID2Q's limitations reads like the list of InDesign features that Quark lacks.

been converted to outlines. And although ID2Q opened most of our simple test files without problems, some complex InDesign documents made QuarkXPress crash without warning.

ID2Q is easy to install and use, and it performs its one-trick-pony thing reasonably well, but that begs the question of how many QuarkXPress users really need a utility to open InDesign documents—especially considering ID2Q's limitations and its hefty price tag. Whether you consider Quark a sinking ship or just a slow boat to Mac OS X, the fact remains that happy InDesign converts (like us) don't need ID2Q.

—John Cruise

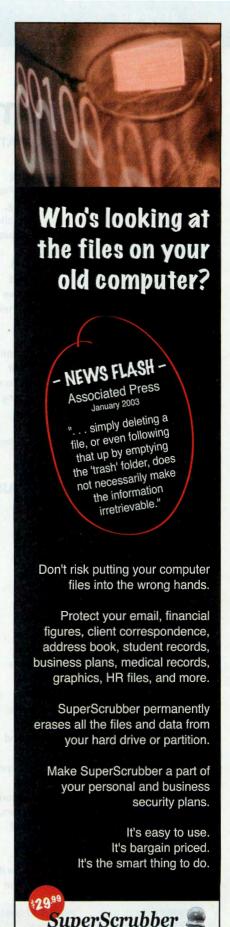
COMPANY: Markzware CONTACT: 949-756-5100 or 800-300-3532, www.markzware.com PRICE: \$199 **REQUIREMENTS:** Power Mac 7200, Mac OS 8.6 to 9.x, 16MB RAM, 10MB disk space, QuarkXPress 4.1 or later

GOOD NEWS: Might provide the tether of moral support you need to make the leap to InDesign.

BAD NEWS: Expensive. Missing most of InDesign's unique features.







Amorphium 3.1

3D GRAPHICS AND ANIMATION

lectric Image's Amorphium is one of those applications with amazing potential that never gets due respect: Pros complain about its inefficient rendering, while newbies shy away from the Mac-alien interface. But the truth is that Amorphium is a fun and easy-to-use 3D-modeling tool. It's also capable of animating and rendering animations to QuickTime and Flash SWF files, making it very attractive to Web designers looking to spice up their designs with some true 3D animation.

If you've got more interest than experience in 3D graphics and animation, Amorphium is a great place to start. For better or worse, it uses a unique interface, which actually makes it less intimidating than most 3D applications and fosters experimentation and learning. Most procedures happen in real time, providing

It's a fun sculpting tool with the power of a serious modeling program.

instant feedback. This makes object modeling in Amorphium more like sculpting with virtual clay than like pixel-pushing computer geekery (and there's no clay mess to clean up).

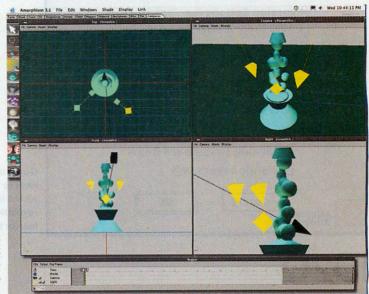
Besides running in Mac OS X,
Amorphium's main new feature is
Subdivision Surface modeling. Sub-D
modeling lets you sculpt a model and
add as much detail as you want using a
virtual cage that surrounds the object
and has as much or as little influence
on the underlying object as you specify.
Amorphium designates Sub-D objects
as Tin objects, which you can tweak and
twist and adjust all you like.

If you're new to 3D, you may not realize what a huge addition Sub-D is; it gives Amorphium—an already fun sculpting tool—the power of a serious modeling program.

The last version of Amorphium could



use image files for decals, textures, and backgrounds, but now it lets you use QuickTime



3D modeling is never easy, but Amorphium at least makes the process less difficult.

movies too. This makes it possible to create sophisticated effects such as rippling water or rolling clouds, for example, with a movie of such moving textures. Imagine building an image of the ideal next-generation iMac (and who hasn't?) and placing video footage from your favorite monster movie on its 32-inch LCD display.

The digital documentation comes in PDF files, which you can access from within the program. These are properly authored, with color pictures, a linked table of contents, and chapter and page bookmarks. Regardless, if you still prefer printed manuals, you're out of luck.

Beyond its take-over-the-whole-Mac interface, Amorphium also shows a near-complete disregard for Apple's interface conventions. While Command-O opens a project, Command-W won't close it—try Command-C for that (no huge loss, as you can't copy or paste objects in Amorphium anyway).

Amorphium is also unconventional in the performance department.

Optimistically, the application runs fast enough on older Macs (specifically, a 500MHz PowerBook G3) for instantgratification fun; pessimistically, it's not multithreaded or multiprocessor aware, so big projects take some time—a Dual Power Mac G4 won't help this app as much as it helps some. The worst productivity offender is Amorphium's



Ta-dal This groovy lava lamp began life as the model shown above.

inability to render in the background.
Once you start a render, you can either watch the progress bar or toggle to another app—which stops the render until you switch back to Amorphium. This effectively hamstrings Amorphium so that it will never become a production application, since no one has time to tie up their computer for rendering unless they're going to lunch or home for the night.

Despite Amorphium's limitations, sculpting in real time is a blast, and the program's ability to export models in a variety of formats makes it a valuable tool when used with other 3D applications. While it's not a tool to build a career on, newbies will have fun playing with this virtual sculpting tool while learning how 3D graphics work. Professional users might consider it a good add-on for their modeling toolbox.—*Mike Caputo*



COMPANY: Electric Image CONTACT: 949-481-6660, www.amorphium.com PRICE: \$149 (boxed), \$139 (download), \$89 (upgrade)

REQUIREMENTS: G3, Mac OS 9 or later, 128MB RAM

GOOD NEWS: Subdivision modeling. Relatively quick-and-easy 3D. Comprehensive PDF manual.

BAD NEWS: Unconventional interface. No background rendering.



Black & White: Creature Isle

EXPANSION PACK

Brush up on your miracles, god dude. It's time once again to don saintly robes and take control of your portion of the playing universe.

Black & White: Creature Isle, an addon for one of the more entertaining god games ever to soak up our leisure hours, is now ready for the Mac. Much as we loved playing god-controlling an interactive environment, recruiting dedicated worshipers, working miracles, and generally lording it over an entire virtual population-Creature Isle delves deep into one of the best elements of the game: the care and rearing of your creature (an animal minion who does much of the god's busywork in Black & White).



If you played the original Black & White, you know what it's like to be an inexperienced godlet, faced with a bewildering mix of challenges: combat, long-range strategy, puzzles, resource management, creature rearing, and a need to control villages by getting the inhabitants to worship you over competing gods.



This game is educational—bet you didn't know that's a ballista the zebra is about to fire.

Think of Creature Isle as summer camp for your Black & White creature-an unusually fun summer camp.



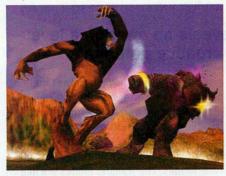
So what could Creature Isle possibly change in this busy world? A lot. This time you're on a new island, with no competing gods. You find yourself (and your pet creature) surrounded by a host of various wild-animal folk who have formed a communal organization called the Brotherhood. Your creature is invited to join their ranks, but must first undergo a series of difficult trials designed to weed out unworthy critters.

Creature Isle offers a refreshing twist on Black & White in that it spares you the mundane godly duties of impressing and caring for your devotees and the tedious micromanagement of villages. Your primary concern is the same thing that made the first game so much fun-rearing and training your creature-only this time the creature develops and trains its own pet critter (a giant chicken named Tyke).

So you spend your time guiding your creature through 18 arcade-style tasks to gain acceptance into the Brotherhood. You shoot marbles, go bowling, play soccer, fire a gigantic crossbow, run foot races, play hide-and-seek, and even take potshots at dolphins. Some of the tests are easy; a fair number are not just difficult but downright frustrating until you discover their secrets. Each test has a gimmick that makes passing much easier. For example, you must race a turtle (not unlike the tortoise and the hare), and until you figure

out that cheating is allowed and you can take shortcuts, you'll have trouble winning

The creatures that inhabit the beautifully colorful island include marble-playing apes, bowling cows, soccer-playing baboons, and even a break-dancing leopard with a British accent. The visuals



Creature Isle isn't all fun and games-your creature has to go through the Rhino before it can join the Brotherhood.

are rich and vivid, the sound effects are excellent, and the creatures' AI will push you to your limits.

Black & White fans will enjoy this expansion. Without management of all those villages, Creature Isle doesn't feel the same, but for newcomers and impatient gamers that's a plus. Now you can focus entirely on training your creature. Just try not to get all sentimental when you're watching it raise its own little critter.-John Lee



COMPANY: Feral Interactive CONTACT: www.feral.co.uk **PRICE: \$40**

REQUIREMENTS: Power Mac, Mac OS 8.6 or 10.1.3 or later, 128MB RAM, OpenGL graphics with 8MB VRAM

GOOD NEWS: Beautiful visuals. Imaginative critters. Lots of arcade-style games. Lacks original game's tedious micromanagement. BAD NEWS: Complex and difficult-to-handle-at-first interface.



VTrack 1.5

VIDEO EDITOR

While the Mac video-editing world is certainly a crowded place—what with Adobe Premiere and Apple's iMovie and Final Cut offering everything from basic editing to advanced compositing and motion graphics—yet another contender has entered the ring. Editing video in VTrack is exceedingly easy, and though it lacks much of the depth of Final Cut and Premiere, its close integration with its sibling program, ArtMatic Pro, gives the app a staggering level of special-effects capabilities.

The basic VTrack interface is clean and simple, and in keeping with the visual style established by U&I Software's other products. The program supports up to eight video tracks and a single overall audio track, but you can use any of the eight video tracks to work around the single overall audio-track limitation. You place movies and artwork (bitmapped images only) in the timeline, which occupies most of the screen at any

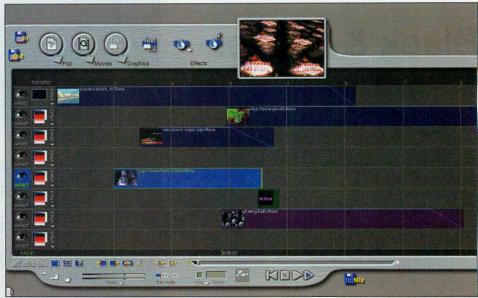
Reveals an awesome level of creative potential.

given time. Once a movie is in the timeline, double-clicking brings up the first round of tweaking tools, including time-precise trimming tools for determining exact in and out points, the ability to slow down and speed up clip playback, and Transfer and Filter modes. The Transfer modes are like the layer modes in Photoshop, and include the requisite Multiply (for darkening) and Overlay, as well as the less-useful Difference mode. As with After Effects' Track Matte mode, you can designate a movie to mask all movies below it in the timeline—incredibly useful for building complex composites.

VTrack also has filters for blurring, false colorization, embossing, adding motion



blur, and many other effects. While you can specify the equivalent of two keyframes for



VTrack's interface looks similar enough to those of other video editors, but when used with its dynamic-duo sibling, ArtMatic Pro, there's nothing like it.

animating the amount of the effect over time (having a title gradually snap into focus using an animated Gaussian blur filter, for example), applying more than one effect per clip requires that you sacrifice one of the eight video tracks for each additional effect. Fear not, though—VTrack's real power emerges when you use it in conjunction with ArtMatic Pro, U&I Software's bewilderingly powerful video-synthesis program.

By using ArtMatic Pro and VTrack together, you effectively turn ArtMatic into the most powerful visual-effects plug-in factory ever. As a stand-alone program, ArtMatic can inherently use still images and movies as sources in its effects trees, or flowcharts. When you import a nonrendered ArtMatic file into VTrack and place it in the timeline, you can have the cumulative edited video of the tracks above it piped into one of the four movie inputs in the ArtMatic file. Say you start with an ArtMatic file that maps video onto a couple of rectangular planes floating through a series of textured "rooms". Place the ArtMatic file in the timeline underneath a section with two or three video segments edited together, and then set the Input source of the ArtMatic file to VTrack, and the program automatically renders the cumulative edited video from the top two or three tracks into the 3D floating planes.

This innovative pipeline approach appears simple on the surface, but reveals an awesome level of creative potential.

Rounding out these seemingly overwhelming possibilities are tools for easily creating animated titles and nonlinear cross-dissolves, as well as snapping video and still segments placed on the timeline to a predetermined beat grid—wonderful for quickly whipping up music videos that follow the beat.

VTrack is a nifty, easy-to-use video editor but it's not worth buying on its own—plan on getting it with ArtMatic Pro, and the potent visual madness that shortly thereafter emits from your Mac's screen will blow you away.

—David Biedny



It's easy to create custom tinting effects—here we interpolate two different tint gradients.

COMPANY: U&I Software CONTACT: 650-364-0556, www.uisoftware.com PRICE: \$299 (\$499 bundled with ArtMatic Pro) REQUIREMENTS: Power Mac (400MHz G3 recommended), 128MB RAM, Mac OS 9 or later GOOD NEWS: Uncluttered interface. Incredible integration with ArtMatic Pro. Potentially stunning output.

BAD NEWS: Only one filter effect per clip without ArtMatic Pro. Needs better audio support. Relatively expensive.





Data Bank

FIREWIRE 400 PORTABLE HARD DRIVE

aCie's minuscule Data Bank drive weighs in at just under 5 ounces and houses the same 1.8-inch, 4,200-rpm 20GB Toshiba hard drive that's in Apple's top-of-the-line iPod. This gorgeous microdrive has both a FireWire 400 and a mini-USB 2.0 port-cables included-as

This is arguably the coolest hard drive ever made.

well as a socket into which you can plug an optional \$20 power supply if you don't have a powered USB hub. Next to the FireWire port is a tiny blue LED that lights when the drive is powered up and blinks when it's busy.

The access door for these ports is one

of our only complaints about the Data Bank. We've had our hands on five different units, and the door broke off of one, flopped flimsily on another, felt solid on yet another, and was somewhere in between on the other two.

Also, if file-transfer performance is important to you, the Data Bank will disappoint: On the FireWire 400 bus of a 1GHz Power Mac G4, it's only about onethird as fast as that Mac's 7,200-rpm 80GB IBM ATA/100 internal drive. On the same Mac's pokey USB 1.1 bus, the Data Bank's performance is ludicrous: The Power Mac's drive is over 40 times as fast.

But it's not meant to be fast. It's meant to be cool—and the Data Bank is arguably



Yes, it is possible for a hard drive to be sexy.

the coolest hard drive ever made. How cool? Well, the next time you want to impress someone, just pull your Data Bank out of its supplied velvet pouch and casually comment that its case (magnesium on top, steel beneath) was not only designed by F. A. Porsche-ves, that Porsche-but that the number 1.618033988749894848 stamped upon it is the ratio of two successive Fibonacci numbers, known since ancient times as the universal measure of beauty that the Greeks called the Golden Mean. Now that's Deep Geek.—Rik Myslewski

COMPANY: LaCie CONTACT: 503-844-4502, www.lacie.com PRICE: \$299

REQUIREMENTS: FireWire- or USB-equipped Mac (FireWire highly recommended), Mac OS 8.6 or later GOOD NEWS: Tiny. Exceptionally cool design. USB and FireWire bus powered. BAD NEWS: Slow. Eensy-weensy 512KB buffer.

Problematic port-access door.

00000 GREAT

MacAddict RATED

PocketMouse Pro Wireless

OPTICAL MOUSE

le've never met a Kensington mouse we didn't like-until now. Despite its proud lineage and inclusion of the mighty MouseWorks software, in our experience the PocketMouse Pro Wireless was ratlike.



Mouse? Or mouse dropping?

The PocketMouse's wireless range and battery life are decent, but this mouse just doesn't work on most surfaces, including the fairly dull tabletop in our offices, which hasn't hindered the tracking of any other optical mouse we've tested. Even on a dark-fabric mousepad-the ideal surface for optical mousingthe cursor often hesitated when we moved the mouse.

This mouse would be great for travel—the transmitter tucks away behind a trap door so there aren't any cords or extra pieces to carry-if only it worked better.-Niko Coucouvanis

COMPANY: Kensington **CONTACT:** 800-235-6708, www.kensington.com

PRICE: \$49.99 REQUIREMENTS: USB-equipped Mac, Mac OS 8 to 9.x or 10.1.5 or later

GOOD NEWS: Cool hideaway transmitter. BAD NEWS: Lame tracking on most surfaces.



Power Over Ethernet

AIRPORT EXTENSION CORD

he premise behind Power Over Ethernet is simple: If you splice electrical juice into the Ethernet cable, you can mount an AirPort Base Station farther away-up to 250 feet fartherfrom an electrical outlet.

The kit includes two adapters: One plugs into the Base Station's power and data ports, and the other attaches to the Base Station's power supply and your Ethernet hub or broadband modem. For a dual-Ethernet Base Station (Snow),



Power Over Ethernet makes perfect sense.

you connect the two adapters with a standard Cat-5 Ethernet cable up to 250 feet in length. The original, single-Ethernet Station (Graphite) is limited to a 150-foot extension. Just plug it in, and it works-we like that.

This one-trick widget obviously isn't for everyone, but as one-trick widgets go, it's a class act.-Niko Coucouvanis

COMPANY: MacWireless CONTACT: 510-848-7126, www.macwireless.com

PRICE: \$29.98 REQUIREMENTS: First-generation (Snow or Graphite) AirPort Base Station

GOOD NEWS: Nearly doubles AirPort's effective range. BAD NEWS: No AirPort Extreme version yet. MacAddict RATED 00000



THE BEST OF THE BEST FROM RECENT



NEW THIS MONTH:



NASCAR Racing 2002

Even if you don't know Kyle Petty from Tom Petty, you'll have a blast playing this stunning stock-car racing game. Great sound, great graphics-even the damage your rookie driving causes is realistic.

OK, so it's not an earthshaking event for every Mac addict—but for type designers, the arrival of Font Lab 4.5.1 for Mac OS X is momentous. As reviewer Paul Yoon wrote. "It sucks not a bit." High praise indeed.



Nikon Coolpix 3100

MacAddict editor and pro photographer Kris Fong is picky. Very picky. So when she calls the Nikon Coolpix 3100 "the best point-and-shoot digicam" she's ever seen, we believe her. So should you.

AUDIO			
MOTU Digital Performer 3	\$795.00	Feb/02, p58	This pro-audio app has a great array of features.
PropellerHead Software Reason 2	\$399.00	Mar/03, p50	It's the best software-synth bargain available today.
Roxio Toast with Jam 5	\$189.95	Sep/02, p49	Burn CDs, MP3 CDs, DVDs, and VCDs and edit audio.
GAMES			
Ambrosia Software Escape Velocity: Nova	\$30.00	Sep/02, p48	Enjoy the perverse thrill of galactic domination.
Aspyr Jedi Knight II: Jedi Outcast	\$49.95	Feb/03, p37	Fantastic gameplay with both weapons and The Force.
Aspyr Medal of Honor: Allied Assault	\$50.00	Oct/02, p43	The WWII first-person shooter is a surefire classic.
Aspyr NASCAR Racing 2002 Season	\$39.99	May/03, p57	Realistic NASCAR racing on a Mac? Believe it.
Aspyr Return to Castle Wolfenstein	\$49.95	Aug/02, p42	What's more satisfying than killing zomble Nazis?
Aspyr The Sims Unleashed	\$29.95	May/03, p58	Pixel-pets abound in the best Sims expansion pack yet.
MacPlay No One Lives Forever	\$49.99	Mar/03, p49	A beautiful spy, sly foes, nifty gadgets, fast action—nice.
MacSoft Max Payne	\$40.00	Dec/02, p42	Max seeks revenge—and gets plenty of it in this FPS.
GRAPHICS & LAYOUT			
Adobe InDesign 2.0	\$699.00	May/02, p50	Look out, Quark—Adobe's rival layout tool kicks butt.
Adobe Photoshop 7	\$609.00	Jul/02, p46	Picture-perfect pixel pusher moves to Mac OS X.
Adobe Photoshop Elements 2	\$99.00	Dec/02, p40	It has most of Photoshop's power for \$500 less.
FontLab 4.5.2	\$549.00	May/03, p53	The font editor all type geeks have been waiting for.
Macromedia Dreamweaver MX	\$399.00	Sep/02, p44	Our favorite Web-design tool gets a strong upgrade.
Macromedia Flash MX	\$499.00	Jul/02, p51	It started in animation; now it can do anything.
PRODUCTIVITY & UTILITIES			
Apple Keynote	\$99.00	Apr/03, p48	This presentation app was built for Mac OS X—and it shows
Bare Bones Software BBEdit 7.0.1	\$179.00	Mar/03, p52	By far the most powerful text editor money can buy.
Microsoft Office v. X	\$499.00	Feb/02, p42	The 800-pound gorilla of productivity applications.
Script Software CopyPaste-X 1.5.1	\$20.00	Apr/03, p61	Shareware must be great to make the list. This clipboard is.
VIDEO & ANIMATION			
Adobe After Effects 5.5	\$649.00	May/02, p49	This motion-graphics stud improves its 3D powers.
Apple DVD Studio Pro 1.5	\$999.00	Oct/02, p55	Apple's essential DVD-burning app gets even better.
Apple Final Cut Pro 3	\$999.00	Apr/02, p45	This pro-level video editor is a real-time revelation.

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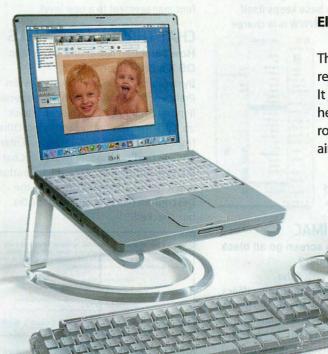
TDK veloCD

ACCESSORIES			
Dr. Bott's extendAIR Direct	\$149.95	May/03, p51	Make AirPort Extreme's range noticeably more extreme.
XtremeMac UFO	\$129.95	May/03, p59	If you own a G4 iMac, you gotta get this way-cool hub.
AUDIO			
Apple 20GB iPod	\$499.00	Nov/02, p45	More storage, cool accessories—it's all good.
Digidesign Mbox	\$495.00	May/02, p59	This audio interface is a traveling musician's delight.
DIGITAL CAMERAS			
Canon PowerShot S230 Digital Elph	\$399.00	Mar/03, p48	A great 3.2-megapixel camera in a tiny, low-cost package.
Nikon Coolpix 3100	\$340.00	May/03, p43	The best point-and-shoot digicam we've seen yet.
Olympus C-4000 Zoom	\$499.00	Jan/03, p52	Great image quality, 4 megapixels, and versatile controls.
DISPLAYS			
Apple Cinema HD Display	\$1,999.00	Aug/02, p40	This 23-inch, 1,920-by-1,200-pixel beauty inspires lust.
Formac gallery 2010 Platinum	\$1,399.00	Jan/03, p47	Bright, fast, huge—and it costs only \$.0007 per pixel.
PRINTERS			
Brother HL-1870N	\$699.00	Aug/02, p45	Need a sturdy laser printer? This one's a workhorse.
Epson Stylus Photo 2200	\$699.00	Oct/02, p42	The most stunning photo printer we've ever tested.
SCANNERS			
Canon CanoScan LiDE 30	\$99.00	Nov/02, p52	This entry-level scanner gets the job done inexpensively.
Epson Perfection Photo	\$399.00	Oct/02, p48	This sophisticated scanner also handles transparencies.
STORAGE			
Maxtor Personal Storage 5000XT	\$399.99	Feb/03, p44	Solid construction, push-button backup, and 250GB.
OWC Mercury Elite 160GB	\$349.95	Sep/02, p53	This handsome, sturdy drive is whisper quiet.

\$315.99 Jul/02, p54

FireWire-equipped CD-RW drive is freaky fast.

Raise your expectations



Elevate your notebook to create the perfect desktop

The iCurve - Invisible Laptop Stand is the key to replacing your desktop machine with a new notebook. It elevates your screen to a comfortable eye-level height. It raises the notebook off the desk - making room for a full-size keyboard and mouse. And it helps air circulate and keep your new 'hot' laptop cool.

Gain portability without sacrificing desktop comfort. Add an iCurve to your notebook and have the best of both worlds.



iCurve



Invisible Laptop Stand



PowerMate

USB Multimedia Controller

- Great volume & play button for iTunes
- · Perfect jog/shuttle wheel to edit iMovies
- Programmable for any application
- · Solid aluminum with blue glowing base



IMIC

USB Audio Interface

- · Adds stereo audio input to your Mac
- Plug-and-Play, no software required
- · Portable, no installation or power needed
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FM Modulator for iPod

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because inquiring minds have the right to be inspired

GOT A QUESTION? NEED ADVICE?

SUBDUE THE ISUB

Pressing the mute key on my keyboard mutes everything except for my iSub. How can I mute my iSub?

Apple is aware of the issue (http://docs.info .apple.com/article.html?artnum=107057) and offers the following workaround: Open

the Sound system preference, click the Output tab, then check the Mute box next to the iSub volume slider. An AppleScript would be a nice workaround, but alas, the

Sound system



iSublimate your iSub's sound via system preferences.

preference is not scriptable in Mac OS X.

WHO IS IN MY COMPUTER?

All sorts of crazy users (like daemon) recently showed up in the Ownership &

Permissions section of my Desktop Info window. Have I been hacked?

No. These nefarious-sounding users are how Mac OS X's Unix base keeps itself running. For example, WWW is in charge

of keeping the Web server going, and dear old daemon governs background processes. It sounds schizophrenic, but we can assure you it's all perfectly safe.



Who are you? Who-oo, Who-oo.

JAGUAR FRIES IMAC

Why did my iMac's screen go all black after I installed Jaguar?

Jaguar has reportedly fried the motherboards on some slot-loading iMacs. To avoid disaster, Mac users should update their iMac's firmware before installing Jaguar. Check out this TidBits article (http:// db.tidbits.com/getbits.acgi?tbart=06973) for more information on the problem and a possible fix. (Thanks to reader Steve Tolin for this information.)

GROUPED FONTS IN MAC OS X

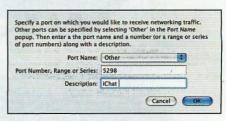
How do I group my Mac OS X fonts by family? The latest versions of Font Reserve and Suitcase can't do it.

Patience, grasshopper. In theory, Mac OS X's font-management system, Font Panel, gives applications full access to font groupings by family, type, and even custom criteria. The problem is that Font Panel is available only to Mac OS X Cocoa applications. Right now, most Mac OS X

font programs are Carbon applications. As soon as developers rewrite the major apps for Cocoa, the very cool Font Panel will bring font management to a new level.

CHAT THROUGH FIREWALLS How can I use iChat and keep Mac OS X's firewall enabled?

By default, Mac OS X's firewall (System Preferences > Sharing) closes the special IP port that iChat uses. To open it back up, click the New button and select Other from the Port Name pop-up menu. Enter 5298 in the Port Number field and iChat in the Description field. Click the OK button, and iChat's port should appear in the Description (Ports) menu with the On box checked.



iChat from behind your Mac OS X firewall.

ZERO IT OUT

How do I really, truly erase my hard drive?

To really, truly obliterate your files, you need to zero the data on your disk. This procedure writes zeros to every spot on the hard drive, irreversibly overwriting all your data. You'll need Mac OS 10.2.3's Disk Utility (Applications > Utilities > Disk Utility) to erase the drive. Highlight the hard drive on the left side of the window, select the Erase tab, click the Options button, and select the Zero All Data check box.

to quick questions

QUICKTIME PRO

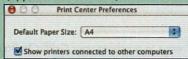
If I purchase QuickTime Pro, can I use the same serial number in Mac OS 9 and Mac OS X?

Yes. The Windows version of QuickTime Pro, however, uses a different number from the Mac OS serial number.

DEFAULT PAGE SIZE

Excusez-moi, but how do I change the default paper size from zee stupide U.S. letter?

Standard international paper sizes such as A4 and B5 are located in the Mac OS X Print Center application's preferences (Applications > Utilities). Voilà.



Choose the default page size here and you won't have to set it in your apps.

MAGIC SHUT DOWN

How do I shut down a Mac from the new Power Mac keyboard?

Simultaneously press the Control and Eject keys to summon the Shut Down dialog.

WHAT WAS THAT PASSWORD?

We forgot the user password on our Mac OS X iBook. How do we reset it?

Boot your computer from the Mac OS X installer CD. From the Installer menu, choose Reset Password. You will be asked to enter a new password for any user on the system.



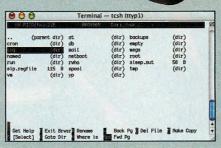




BROWSING THE TERMINAL

What's the easiest way to browse for files in the Terminal?

The easiest way to fish for files is with the text editor pico and its file-browser feature. At the command line, type pico and press return to launch pico. Press Control-R (the Read File command), then press Control-T (the To Files command) to enter the file browser. Now you can use your keyboard's arrow keys to scroll through your directories. Select the directory you want and press



Pico-boo! I see you. Troll directories with pico's file browser.

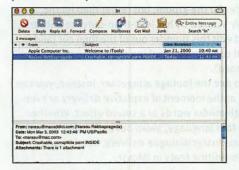
Enter, then Y (for yes) to open that directory. Sure, you can use the tried-and-true cd (change directory) command, which takes you right to a directory (type cd directory name), but this way is easier.

NO PREVIEW, PLEASE

Is it possible to disable the Preview pane in Mac OS X's Mail application?

Nope, but you can drag the divider in the main window all the way to the bottom.

So if you get an email message that crashes Mail and you are unable to delete the problem message, hiding the preview pane will allow you to do so.



Drag the middle divider to the bottom of the window to hide the peep show.

MOVING MUSIC

Can I move my iTunes songs onto a new drive and maintain all my playlists?

Yes. First, copy your iTunes folder from your Music folder (Users > user name > Music) to your new hard drive. Next, delete (or to be on the safe side, rename) your original iTunes folder. Finally, create an alias of the iTunes folder in the new location (which can be anywhere on your new drive) and put that alias into your Users > user name > Music folder, where the original iTunes folder was located.

Submit technical questions or helpful tips directly via email (askus@macaddict.com) or c/o MacAddict, 150 North Hill Dr., Brisbane, CA 94005.

Six years of handling tech support for Apple, Power Computing, and a Texas school district have given Buz Zoller Mac superpowers.

APPLEWORKS

How do you delete the recent items from the Starting Points window in AppleWorks?

Drag them from the Starting Points window directly to the Trash or manually delete the item aliases from the Users > user name > Documents > AppleWorks User Data > Starting Points > Recent Items folder.

NO PHOTOS ON IPOD

Can you transfer digital photos from a camera's CompactFlash card directly to an iPod?



This Month

66 Overdub Flubs in iMovie

Your family's expletive exchange may be fruitful on the home front, but you needn't preserve the tawdry tidbits for posterity in your home movies. Here are a few ways to clean up the act.



69 Trash Locked Files and Directories

Anna Nicole Smith, Michael Jackson, and John Tesh—it's easy to trash them, but not so with some Mac OS X files. If files or folders in your system defy your will to throw them away, get the not-so-secret command here and say good riddance.



70 Share iTunes Across a Network

Why spend time copying your favorite CDs onto every machine you occupy when you can turn one Mac into an iTunes jukebox and serve songs across your local network? Good question—and we've got the answer.

72 FTP for Free

Apps like Fetch, Transmit, and Interarchy cost money. If you're looking for a way to transfer files on the cheap, we show you a free way to FTP in Mac OS X.



Overdub Flubs in iMovie

by Kris Fong



WHAT YOU NEED

- · iMovie 3 (free, www.apple.com)
- · Microphone, internal or external (optional)

here's nothing like a beautiful summer wedding, and you—
Mac-based moviemaking visionary that you are—aspire to
capture every falling rose petal and every adoring gaze to create
a romantic DVD for the happy couple. Suddenly, the bride lets loose
an almighty string of obscenities when a bee lands on her bouquet.
Woo-hoo—it's a wedding now! Sure, the scene would make great

rewind-button fodder for the groom, but rather than let the bride be emotionally scarred by her less-than-ladylike outburst, perhaps you should edit this blunder out of the final cut (and preserve an original copy for yourself in case you need blackmail material down the road).

You don't need to axe the footage altogether. Instead, you can drop out the sound at the moment of expletive delivery or even overdub the flub with milder words or a sound effect. Whether you want to silence foul language, swap out audio with a sound effect, or overdub lackluster dialogue delivery, here's how to perform these audio-editing feats in iMovie.

Edit Your Movie First Maybe you have a fast-cut, multiple-transition style of editing or maybe you prefer to just string clips together with few transitions. Either way, it's best to do your video editing before fiddling with the dialogue so you don't inadvertently unsync audio tracks

from video. Import your DV footage into iMovie, and then edit and sequence your clips together as you normally would in either clip viewer or timeline viewer mode. When you're finished, click the clock icon below the monitor screen to display your edited clips in the timeline viewer (if you weren't working in this mode already).



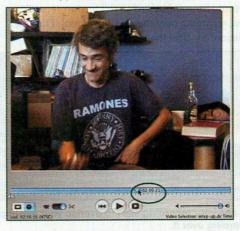
Because iMovie sometimes mishandles video and audio tracks, cobble together your movie in the clip viewer (shown here) or in the timeline viewer before swapping sounds.

Isolate Audio from Video If you haven't changed iMovie preferences to import video and audio on separate tracks during the import process, you'll need to extract the audio from every video clip you wish to sound-edit. From the iMovie menu, select Preferences. In the resulting dialog, uncheck the Use Short Time Codes box so you have a tighter time reference to control your audio syncing, and then close the window. In the timeline, select a clip that contains objectionable audio or less-than-stellar delivery. From the Advanced menu, select Extract Audio to separate the clip's audio from its video—the audio clip appears as a purple bar in audio track 1 below your video clip in the timeline.



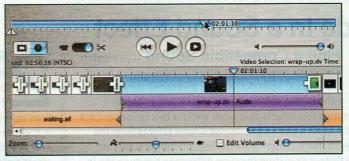
To edit audio, extract it from the video clip (if you haven't already set iMovie to do so automatically during DV import).

Mark the In Point To find the precise beginning of the audio you want to edit, click the play button to hear the audio, and then drag the playhead in the scrubber bar to the point just before you hear the objectionable stuff. Finetune the position by pressing the right-arrow key to nudge the video forward one frame per key press. When you think you're at the right point, jot down the time displayed to the right of the playhead (this is your in point), and click the play button. If you hear the unwanted word clearly in its entirety—you've hit the mark. If not, scratch out the time and try again: If the word or phrase is chopped off, move the playhead left; if important dialogue preceding the unwanted stuff is chopped off, move the playhead right.



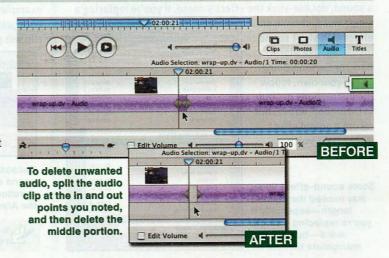
To make a precise edit, note the exact fraction of time (to the playhead's right) just before that first blunder occurs.

Mark the Out Point To find the precise point at which the audio you want to overdub ends, move the playhead in the scrubber bar to the point just after the last unwanted word is uttered (whether it's after a single word or phrase). Finetune by using the left-arrow key to nudge the playhead back a few frames to where you estimate the unwanted word ends, and jot down the time—this is your out point. Click the play button. If you hear part of the objectionable word, the playhead's too far left; if you hear part of a word that follows it, the playhead's too far right. Repeat this step as necessary until you find the exact out point.



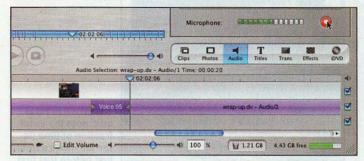
Find the exact end point of the unwanted audio by moving the playhead to the target region and then using the arrow keys to nudge it with precision.

Drop Out the Audio For better precision, move the Zoom slider (bottom left) to the right to zoom in on the timeline tracks. Click the audio clip to select it, and drag the playhead in the scrubber bar to the in point you jotted down in step 3-use the arrow keys to fine-tune. (Warning: Do not drag the playhead in the timeline. Doing so will cause your audio to unsync if you press an arrow key.) From the Edit menu, select Split Selected Audio Clip At Playhead to splice the clip. Press Shift-Command-A to deselect the clips, and then click the audio clip on the right. Drag the scrubber playhead to the out point you noted in step 4, split the audio clip at the playhead, and deselect the clips again. Then select the middle audio clip and press Delete. Now play back your video to check your handiwork-you shouldn't hear the unwanted audio. If you want to fill the silence with a vocal overdub or sound effect, read on.



Dub In Dialogue

Punch in a Performance You've seen this type of audio edit in any edited-for-TV movie and in *Star Wars: Attack of the Clones*. Preferably, you want the person who uttered the original words to record the overdub, but it's not a requirement. Click the Audio button to display the panel, and place your performer in front of your mic—either internal or external. Drag the playhead in the timeline to about 5 or 10 seconds before the dropout, and play the clip repeatedly so that he or she can study the speaker's lip movements and practice delivering the dialogue in sync. When ready, drag the playhead back, cue your performer, click play, and—just before the dropout comes up—click the record button (the red circle) to start recording (don't worry, you're not recording over the existing audio). Click the button again to stop recording after the last word is spoken.



Don't panic when you see your recording start to overlap your existing audio—you're not recording over it.

Crop Extraneous Sounds The overdub audio clip will appear to overlap the existing audio clips in audio track 1 in the spot where you deleted the original audio. To isolate the clip, drag it directly down to audio track 2 and click play to hear the performance. If the recording is out of sync, click the audio overdub clip and use the left- and right-arrow keys to nudge it so it's in sync with the video. Then crop the extra bits of audio before and after the dialogue delivery, using the split and delete methods discussed earlier, except that this time keep the middle portion and delete the sides. If the performance isn't dead on, delete the track and try again.



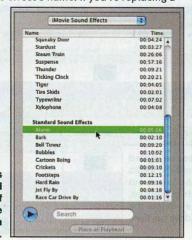
Once we recorded a golden performance, we split the audio clip twice and deleted the extra stuff before and after the overdubbed dialogue.

Slide In a Sound Effect

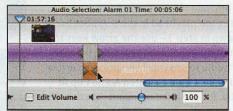
Find a Compatible Sound If you watch The Osbournes or any reality-TV show, you've heard the bleeps, squeaks, honks, and other zany sound effects that replace potty-mouth lingo. iMovie 3 comes with a few effects that work well for this purpose. Click the Audio button and select iMovie Sound Effects from the top pop-up menu. Then figure out the amount of time you need to fill by calculating the time difference between the in and out points you jotted down. Use the sound-effect times displayed in the panel as a loose guide, choosing sounds that are close to but a bit longer than the length you need. To hear a sound, double-click the effect's name. If you're replacing a

single word, choose an effect with short sound instances, like Alarm, Bark, or Cartoon Boing. To roll your own, follow the instructions in "Dub In Dialogue," above, but record a sound effect instead of a voice.

Some sound-effect times may exceed the needed length—especially if you're replacing a single word—but you can manipulate them to fit.



Resize to Shorten When you find a sound that works within your time needs, drag the effect's name from the audio pane down to audio track 2, below the audio dropout in audio track 1. Move the clip so that its left edge lines up with the point where the dropout occurs. Drag the playhead in the timeline a few seconds prior to this spot, and play the clip to hear how the effect works here. Use the arrow keys to fine-tune the effect's placement if needed. If the clip is longer than the space, drag the right edge of the sound-effect clip to the left to shorten its duration (you can't slice an iMovie sound effect). Play the clip again; if the sound effect gets chopped off midway through a sound (for example, the second bark in Bark), shorten the clip a bit more so it ends just after the last completed instance—the remainder of the clip will play a fraction of silence.



Because you can't slice and dice iMovie's sound effects, resize the clip—shortening its duration—to fit your needs. Here, we shortened the Alarm effect to just one sound instance.

Kris Fong had quite a few choice words to say about iMovie 3's performance on an iBook, but this bio has been edited for content.

Trash Locked Files and Directories

by Kris Fong

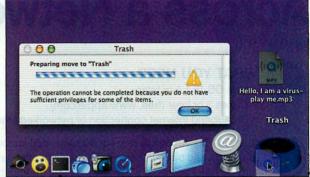


WHAT YOU NEED

- Mac OS X (\$129, www.apple.com)
- Administrator privileges

aking out the trash isn't a difficult chore—just ask any nagging spouse or parent. But when it comes to tossing stuff into the Trash in Mac OS X, complications can arise. For example, if you installed Fink from our "Run Unix Apps in Mac OS X" tutorial (May/03, p64), you may have discovered that you can't budge the sw folder Fink created in the root directory.

If you've ever tried to throw away a file or folder and promptly been told you didn't have the proper permission, here's how to get rid of those stubborn squatters via the Terminal. Warning: Once you dump, you can't undo.



For troublesome trash, use the Terminal to remove files and folders—now if only we could use this dialog's excuse on garbage night.

Try Unlocking First Before you resort to chucking a file via the Terminal, try unlocking that file first—especially if you see a small padlock attached to its icon. Select the file or folder icon and press Command-I (Get Info). In the resulting window, uncheck the Locked box, close the window, and throw away the item. If there's no check in the Locked box or if the box is grayed out, read on.



That little padlock indicates that a file's locked.
Before firing up the Terminal, try unlocking the file via Get Info first.

Journey to the Junk To remove files or directories (aka folders), first navigate to the directory that houses them. Launch the Terminal. At the prompt, type cd (change directory), press the space bar, type the path to the target directory, and press Return. For example, to remove, say, some stubborn installer-log file, type cd / Documents/"Installer Logs" to navigate to the Installer Log folder—the parent directory. Use the list command (Is) to list directory contents so you can get to where you need to be. Enclose multiword file and directory

Lost login: Mon Mar 3 13:40:05 on ttyp1

Welcome to Dorvin!

Monde-6-134:*] kfongN is

Library Public

Desktop

Documents Husic Sites

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Plotures

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[mode-6-134:*] Music/Music/Music/Music/Music/Mindis/*

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[mode-6-134:*] Music/

names in double quotes (""), and remember that command-line text is case sensitive.

We used the change directory (cd) and list (ls) commands to navigate to this tenacious MP3 file.

Fling Out Files To remove a file, you generally type rm file name, where file name is the file's full name. However, with files for which you don't have privileges, OS X won't permit you to do so. To circumvent this obstacle, you must assume the role of the great and powerful root user. Type sudo (superuser do), press the space bar, type rm (remove), press the space bar again, type the file name, and press Return. At the Password prompt, type your admin password and press Return. If asked to override permissions, type y for yes and press Return. This will remove the file. To remove multiple files, list all the file names after the command, with a single space between file names: sudo rm file name 1 file name 2 file name 3 and so forth.



To delete unmovable files, type suda (to execute a single command as root) prior to typing rm (to remove directory entries).

Delete Directories To remove a directory and its contents, navigate to its parent directory and type sudo rm -r directory name, where directory name is the full name of the directory, and press Return. For example, to remove Fink's sw directory, we typed sudo rm -r sw. When asked for an administrator password, type it in and press Return.



After listing the root directory's contents, we removed Fink's sw directory with one command.

Fong loves to talk trash but has an aversion to taking it out.

Share iTunes Across a Network

by Kris Fong



WHAT YOU NEED

- Mac OS 10.1.4 or later
- iTunes 3 or later (free, www.apple.com)
- Broadband Internet connection or networked Macs

ur bag ain't big enough to tote our 30 some-odd music CDs to work and back just so we can drown out the daily reality-TV spiel and what's-for-lunch babble that tumbles over our cubicle walls (thanks, *Joe Millionaire* and *Maximum PC*). Short of burning copies of every CD for permanent work storage or filling up our precious hard drive with MP3s, what's a Mac music addict to do? Create an iTunes music server that we can share



with others, of course. Cost of setting up a music server: zero dollars. Cost of iTunes software for you and your friends: zero dollars. Satisfaction in knowing that your actions will probably churn the steely guts of the RIAA: priceless.

Sign Up Your Clients Just so we're clear, we'll refer to the Mac that holds your iTunes collection as the jukebox server and any Mac that you want connected to it as a client. On your jukebox server, create a user for every client to whom you want to give access—whether it's an actual human being or one of your other Macs stationed around the house or at work. From the Apple menu, select System Preferences, and click the Accounts preference to display its options. Click the Users tab and click New User. In the resulting panel, type a name in the Name field, type a password in the New Password field, type the password again in the Verify field, and then click OK. Repeat for any other clients.



Create a user for every Mac place or person to whom you want to allow access to your iTunes collection.



It's easy to stream your MP3 collection to others, but you might want to weed out your guilty pleasures first.

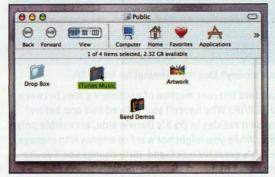
Whether you're in a similar predicament or simply want to listen to music files on a different Mac than the one where the files are stored, it's easy to set up iTunes to function as a pseudo music-streaming server. Yes, there are different ways to share your music collection with other machines (and no, we're not implying that you go down that Napster-style bad-boy route). Here, we present one simple, perfectly legal method that doesn't require a third-party app such as Shirt Pocket's netTunes (www.shirt-pocket.com), SearchWare Solutions' iHam on iRye (www.swssoftware.com), or Malia Software's MP3 Sushi (www.maliasoft.com); that doesn't require copying MP3 files to any hard drive; and that allows clients to play your tunes using your Music Library file.

Start Sharing Click the Show All icon in the System Preferences window to display everything, and then click the Sharing preference to display its options. Type a name for your jukebox server in the Computer Name field (if one isn't there already), click the Services tab, and then check the Personal File Sharing box to turn on file sharing. Wait a few seconds for the process to start up, and then jot down the network address that appears at the bottom of the window. It'll start with afp://, followed by the address—a jumble of numbers and/or words—that your clients will need to connect to your jukebox remotely. Then close the window.



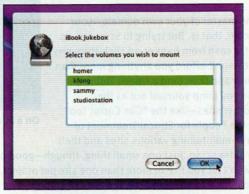
Turn on File Sharing to allow any authorized user to access your Public folder, where you'll store your tunes.

Move Your Music By default, iTunes 3 stores all music brought into the application inside your iTunes Music folder, located at Users > user name > Music > iTunes > iTunes Music, but you can move this folder and its contents anywhere. However, Apple hardwired your iTunes 3 Music Library—the file that lists your songs within the iTunes interface—to operate strictly within your user's iTunes folder. To give clients access to your music collection, move your iTunes Music folder into your user's Public folder. To allow others to view your jukebox song list within their iTunes app, make a copy by Option-dragging the iTunes 3 Music Library file from the iTunes folder to your Public folder. (If you later add songs to the jukebox, copy the updated music library file to your Public folder and tell your denizens to replace their current file with the updated one.)



To give others access to your tunes, place your iTunes Music folder in your Public folder.

Connect to the Jukebox On a client machine, log in to the jukebox server by either launching a Web browser or selecting Connect To Server from the Go menu. In the address or URL field, type afp://, followed by the jukebox's server address, and press Return. In the resulting network dialog, type a user name and password for the jukebox server in the appropriate fields, and click Connect. A dialog pops open, containing a list of each user volume you created for the jukebox server; select the volume name that holds the iTunes Music folder, and click OK to mount the volume on the desktop.



Make sure to mount the user volume that contains the iTunes Music files.

Set Up an iTunes Client To enable a client to view your jukebox song list within the iTunes app and stream music from the server, you need to do some reconfiguring. To preserve a client's current iTunes data, go to the iTunes folder (Users > user name > Music > iTunes), and rename this folder as iTunes old or the like. Then create a new folder in this location and name it iTunes. Open the jukebox volume and drag the iTunes 3 Music Library file to this iTunes folder (make sure the file name appears exactly as mentioned). Then create an alias of the iTunes Music folder on the jukebox server (Command-L), and drag it to the client's iTunes folder to copy it. Delete the word alias and the space that precedes it from the folder name so that it's just iTunes Music.



After creating an alias, lop off that alias tag to keep the iTunes Music name intact.

Crank Up the Tunes

To play any song from the jukebox server, launch iTunes on a client machine and select a tune; the jukebox's song list appears as the default Library, and songs play directly from the jukebox server. For quick access, make an alias of the mounted jukebox volume. Depending on your connection speed, the jukebox should be able to handle multiple streams across a LAN (local-area network)—we had four networked Macs simultaneously playing the same song without any hiccups, but we can't promise anything if you decide to invite 100 or so of your closest Mac maniacs to partake in your jukebox jollies. With broadband Internet connections, you may experience a few burps now and then, so we don't recommend trying this if you have a dial-up connection.



Because you pulled a switcheroo with the iTunes 3 Music Library file, the jukebox server's song list will appear when a client launches iTunes.

Kris Fong admits to owning a Winger album but chose to spare her jukebox listeners from wailing Aquanetladen '80's bands.

FTP for Free

by Mary E. Tyler



WHAT YOU NEED

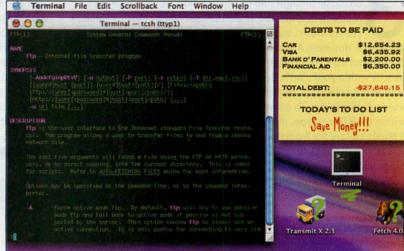
- · Mac OS X (\$129, www.apple.com)
- · An Internet connection
- · Access to a remote server

ou are the master of your own domain-your Web domain, that is. But trying to scrounge up some extra cash from banner-ad click-throughs on your Web site won't afford you anything more than a pizza every now and then (and a frozen Totino's one at that!). So you pimp yourself out as the Webmaster of other sites—like the "Can Carrot Top" protest site for the People for Ethical Treatment of AT&T Customers—maintaining various sites and their mirrors to earn extra scrap. Just one small thing, though-good ol'

Dreamweaver won't let you FTP to more than one site per project. That means you'll have to go in and change the FTP settings every time you update each mirror on each Web site. And you really don't want to have to shell out extra for an FTP program.



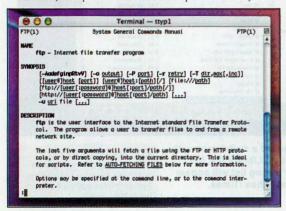
Buck up, buckaroo-things aren't so grim. Mac OS X has a built-in FTP client, aptly named FTP (file transfer program), that lets you transfer files to and from any FTP-enabled server. (For the uninitiated, FTP stands for file transfer



On a mission to maintain your money? Use the Terminal for free FTP.

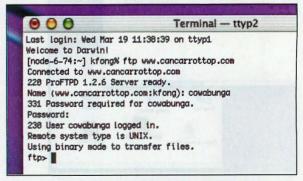
protocol, a standard Internet method of exchanging files between computers via TCP/IP.) Why haven't you noticed this app before? Probably because it resides in OS X's Darwin side, accessible only via the Terminal. While you might not want to employ it to manage huge Web sites, it's great for quick-and-dirty changes or if you're maintaining your own personal site. And unlike Stairways Software Interarchy (formerly Anarchie; \$45, www.interarchy.com), Fetch Softworks Fetch (\$25, www.fetchsoftworks.com), and Panic Transmit (\$24.95, www.panic.com), it's free. Here's how to use FTP to upload files to and download them from a remote server.

Help Me, Man! If you're not comfy cozy with commanding Unix apps, we recommend perusing the FTP manual first to gain insight on various options (aka flags) that you can apply to the program's use. So call up the man—Unix's manual command. Launch the Terminal (Applications > Utilities > Terminal). At the prompt, type man ftp and press Return to have the Terminal display the FTP manual. Press the Return key to scroll down line by line or the space bar to page down (the window's scroll bar and arrows won't work here). You can leave this window open for reference if needed. Then open a new window (aka a shell) by pressing Command-N. (If you're curious about other Unix commands, type men, press the space bar, type a Unix command, and press Return to call up its manual.)

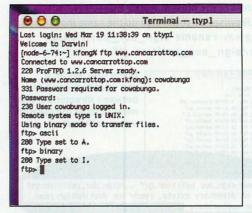


Though the scroll bar Indicates otherwise, this is not the end of the manual-press the Return key or space bar to scroll through It in its entirety.

Open (Sesame) To open an FTP connection, just type ftp, press the space bar, type in the server address or Web site's URL, and press Return. For example, we typed ftp www.cancarrottop.com, and then pressed Return to open our gateway to the Carrot Top protest site. FTP will connect to the site and ask you to log in. After the Name prompt, type your user name for the site and press Return. At the Password prompt, type your password and press Return. The Terminal will then display a confirmation that you're logged in, followed by the remote computer's system type in the line below it.



Once you've logged in to a site via FTP, the Terminal displays the remote computer's system-platform type. Set the Transfer Mode You may be on a Mac, but your hosting server may be running a different platform. Therefore, set the transfer mode—either ASCII or binary—to ensure that your file doesn't get garbled in transit. The Terminal displays the current mode below the line that states the remote system type. Use ASCII for text transfers, such as HTML files; use binary for everything else, like media files and graphics. To change modes, simply type the mode you want FTP to use. For example, to transfer text files, switch from binary to ASCII mode by simply typing ascii at the prompt and pressing Return. If you need to switch to binary mode, type binary at the prompt and press Return.



Set the transfer mode to ASCII by typing ascii if you want to upload text files; use binary for everything else.

Set the Destination To choose the download destination for files on your Mac (your local drive), preface navigational commands with a lowercase *l*, as in *lollygagger*. For example, typing lpwd displays the path of your Mac's current directory (as opposed to typing pwd, which displays the path of the server's current directory). Type lcd, press the space bar, and then type the path to the target local directory, separating each directory with a slash (/) and enclosing multiple word names in quotes (""). If the file path is long, try this shortcut: Type lcd, press the space bar, drag and drop the target folder from a Finder window onto the Terminal window, and press Return to change to that directory. Unfortunately, if this path includes directory names with special characters, this shortcut may not work—in that case, you'll have to type the path the long way.



If you want to avoid typing a lengthy path name to change directories, drag and drop the desired folder onto the Terminal window.

Find the Files OK, time to get down to business. For demonstration purposes, follow our example, but you can apply the instruction to your own files. In our example, every one of our Can Carrot Top pages sports a GIF image of a quote. Our job today is to download the current quote files from the server, update them, and then upload the new ones. First, navigate to the server directory that houses your target files using the cd (change directory) command—we typed cd html/images/quotes to navigate to our quotes directory. Type pwd (print working directory) if you need to view the path name of your current directory so you can figure out where you're at. FTP uses the same navigational commands as the Terminal to help you troll through a remote server. To navigate through your local drive, you must add one extra letter, as you'll see in the next step.



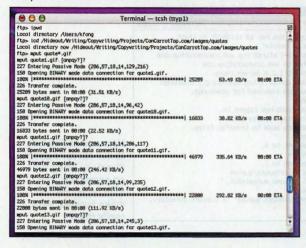
Here, we navigated to our server's quotes directory using the cd command, and then typed pwd to make sure we were really there.

Gome and Get It To download a single file, simply type gst, press the space bar, type the file name, and press Return. For example, we typed gst quote1.gif to download our quote1.gif file (make sure the transfer mode is set correctly for your file—we used binary for our GIFs). If you need to grab stuff in bulk and your files are similarly named, do what we did instead of grabbing files one by one; we typed mgst quote*.gif and pressed Return to download all files whose names begin with quote and end with .gif (apply your own semantics). The asterisk (*) is a wild card that stands for any unspecified characters. For each file that matches the pattern, mget will ask if you want to download it—just press Return if you do, or type n (no) and press Return if you don't.



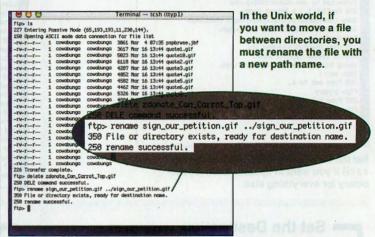
Because we have several similarly named GIF files, we typed mget quote*.gif to download every one in the numbered series.

Put That Back After you're done updating your files, upload them back onto your Web hosting server. You can choose to do this a file at a time by typing put, pressing the space bar, typing the file name, and pressing Return (that is, put quotel.gif), or use the command mput as you used mget in step 6. Remember, FTP operates within the remote and local directories you specify—if you download a file, update it, and then move it to another folder, you'll need to change your current local directory via the Terminal to upload that file back to the server.

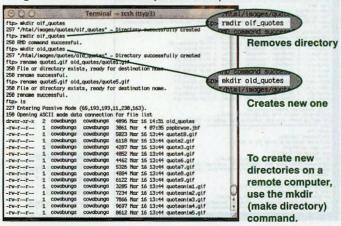


To upload your files, use the put command for single files or mput for multiple uploads.

Fix Boo-Boos We accidentally uploaded two nonquote files—one of which we shouldn't have uploaded at all, and another that should've gone into our parent images directory instead of our quotes directory. No problem. To get rid of a file, type delete followed by the unwanted file's name—we typed delete zdonate_Can_Carrot_Top.gif to remove that GIF. To move a file from one directory to another, you can't just drag and drop as in the Mac OS; you have to rename the file with a new path. To move our sign_our_petition.gif file, we typed rename sign_our_petition.gif (space) .../sign_our_petition.gif. The command ../ before the second argument means "the parent of the present working directory," which is our images directory. Likewise, we could also do the same move by typing this out the long way: rename sign_our_petition.gif (space) /html/images/sign_our_petition.gif.



Move Stuff into New Places We got a call from our client, telling us that quotes 1 and 5 are now obsolete. We don't want to delete the files just in case the client changes his mind. Instead, we can put them into a new directory. To create a new directory, navigate to the parent directory in which you want the new directory to appear, and type mkdir new directory name (for example, we typed mkdir old_quotes to create a new directory called old_quotes within our quotes directory). If you're dyslexic like us and mistype the directory name, remove the directory by typing rmdir directory name typo. Then move files by using the rename command as you did in step 8.



Say Good-Night Finally, your work is done. Now what? Time to terminate. There are a few different ways to terminate an FTP connection. To terminate the connection without quitting FTP, just type close and press Return. If you want to quit FTP and close your connection, type bye, exit, or quit and you'll return to the original shell. For future reference, if you forget which commands the Terminal understands, type help and press Return from within FTP and it'll list them. Typing help command name gives you a one-line explanation of what that command does. OK, go geek out!

000	Terminal — tcsh (tty
ftp> help quit	
quit	terminate ftp session and exit
ftp> help lcd	
led	change local working directory
ftp> help quit	
quit	terminate ftp session and exit
ftp> help bye	
bye	terminate ftp session and exit
ftp> help exit	
exit	terminate ftp session and exit
ftp> help close	
close	terminate ftp session
ftp> quit	September 1
dS X Junkie> ∏	

If you forget which command does what, type help before the command name to get a quick explanation.

Mary E. Tyler remembers when Macs were expensive and FTP clients weren't just cheap—they were free.

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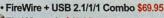
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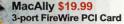
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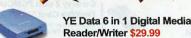
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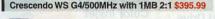
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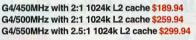
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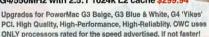


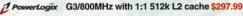
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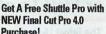
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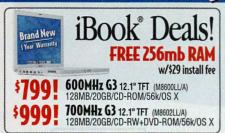
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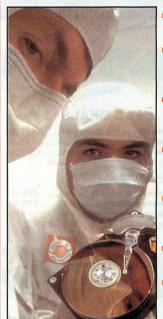
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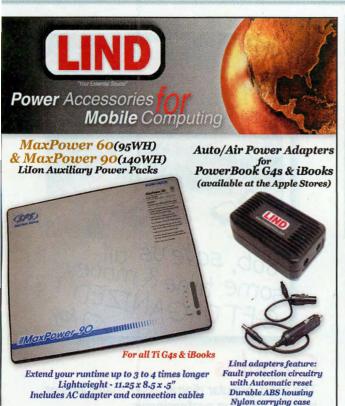
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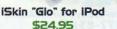
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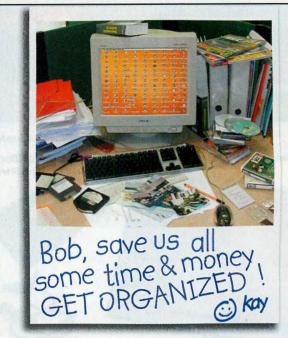
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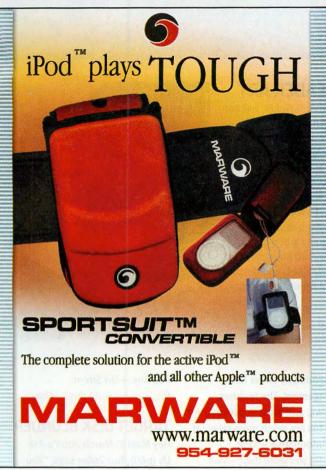
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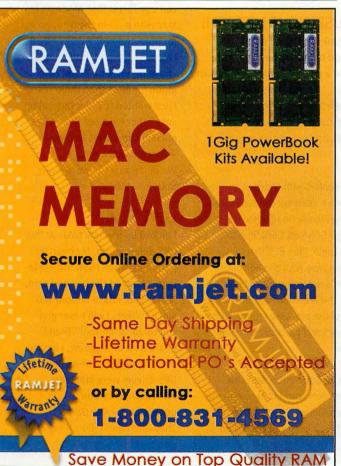
















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94 DE LOG OUT

LETTERS

DINO-MITE!

Where can I get that cool Godzilla USB hub pictured in the February 2003 issue (*Get Info*,

Feb/03, p13)?—Gary Kruse
The FireWire Dino (\$74.95,
www.charismac.com)
should be available
at the Charismac
Web site by the
time you read
this.—Max

Godzilla's back—by popular demand.

CONTEST WINNER CLEARS NAME

OK, OK, I'll come clean about how I got so close to guessing

the correct number of pages in the stack of books appearing in MacAddict's Books of Luck Contest (Log Out, Dec/02, p95). I already own about four or five of the books in the stack, so I counted those pages. Then ! guessed the length of the other books. So no. I didn't break into the vault of books.-Tim Ankcorn We jokingly accused Tim of breaking into our offices to win the contest, which he obviously didn't, because only one person has ever gotten past our crocodile-filled moat and complex web of laser detection beams. And you know what happened to her ... - Max

SUSPICIOUS LETTER

I've been an avid reader of

MacAddict for over four years.
The magazine has improved

READER ART

Artist: David M. Salmon Occupation: Web developer and student Statement: The idea for this design project came to me when I received my Power Mac G4. I used cold-pressed poster board, tracing paper, carbon paper, about 20 MacAddict magazines, and black and white acrylic paint.

D. Salmon takes mixed media to the Macs.



tremendously under Rik's management. The features, reviews, and most important, the how-tos are much more relevant and informative.—John Rik, did you write this?—Max

SUSPICIOUS LETTER II

I think Rik should give Max a good old-fashioned spanking and a pay cut until Max falls back into line.—*Ian Strom*Rik, did you write this?—*Max*

TARGET DISK BLUNDER

Hey Max! In March 2003's Ask
Us (p60), Buz Zoller says, "You
can use Target Disk Mode on any
Mac with built-in FireWire, except
for Blue-and-White G3s..." Well,
I have a Blue-and-White and
I have been using Target Disk
Mode for more than three years.
I just wanted to point this out in
case other folks out there have
ancient computers like mine.
—Tom Knoedler

We're passing the word along, thanks.—Max

LOVE STORY

I picked up my new eMac at the UPS delivery hub. My heart was pounding when I saw the Apple logo. I hugged the box and said, "I love you. I have missed you since college. I will never give you up for adoption!" Then I heard a lot of laughing. I looked over to the right, where the UPS drivers were standing. Harrumph, they don't understand.—Ron Gurba They often don't, Ron. They often don't.—Max

SQUELETRON! Max Needs You

HELP SAVE

Max Needs You to Rescue Kid's Hijacked iBook

January 2003:

Squeletron (aka 13year-old Kevin Garcia) contacts Max because his evil 15-year-old brother has remotely invaded his iBook with a mysterious SSH (secure shell) protocol (*Log Out*, Apr/03, p94).

February 2003: Max attempts reconnaissance. Squeletron goes underground but not before he reveals that he is in fact the root user. There is hope.

March 2003: Sympathetic reader Raviin Patel writes, "My thoughts and prayers are with Squeletron." Max holds a sparsely attended candlelight vigil.

March 2003: Squeletron resurfaces, blames the missed communication on Microsoft Hotmail, and renews his request for aid.

April 2003: Max confers with IT experts, who find Squeletron's dilemma curious. They suggest the following: Plan A: Go to System Preferences > Sharing > Services. Click Stop to turn off SSH Remote Login. Plan B: If that fails, launch the Terminal and type who to see specific information about who's accessing your Mac and from where. Plan C: In the Terminal, type ps -aux, which gives you a list of the processes running on your system. Look for suspect processes like snoop or a password checker.

If you have any advice for Squeletron, send an email message to letters@macaddict.com with the subject line "Saving Squeletron." We'll make sure he gets your note, and we'll keep you posted on this continuing saga.

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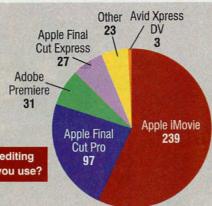
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- Brightness
- Ability to play fast-action video and games

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ESP

I would love to read an article on how to turn your Mac into the ultimate home-entertainment system.—Roni Ooh, a Twilight Zone moment. A few months ago our ears started burning, so we instinctively published "Kick Back with Your Mac," an article on making the Mac the soul of your entertainment center (Nov/02, p30).—Max

WINNER!

Results of Max TV Pilot Contest

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Deadline for entry: June 30, 2003

Contest Rules

The judges will be MacAddicfer editors, and they will base their decision on the following equally weighted criteria: 50 percent humor and 50 percent plausibility. All entries must be received no later than June 30, 2003, with the winner announced on or around October 2003. By entering this contest, you agree that Future Network USA may use your name, likeness, and Web site for promotional purposes without further payment. All prizes will be awarded and no milimum number of entities is required. Prizes won by minors will be awarded to their parents or legal guardians. Future Network USA is not responsible for damages or expenses the winners might incorn as a result of this contest or the receigt of a prize, and winners are responsible for income taxes based on the value of the prize received. All stof winners may also be obtained by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Future Network USA c/o MacAddict contest, 150 North Hill Dr., Brisbane, CA 94005. This contest is limited to residents of the United States. No purchase necessary; void in Artzona, Maryland, Vermont, Puerto Rico, and where prohibited by law.



Austin, Texas, May 20, 2003—Games developer Perspyr has announced the upcoming release of two expansion packs set to rival The Sims' official add-ons. Due out later this year, the competitors to the popular Sims franchise will include The Sims Fall on Hard Times and The Sims Celebrity Edition.

"The Sims does a stellar job of reflecting real life!" says Cher Leader, a representative for Perspyr. "But with all that's been going on

"...we feel it's our job to depict all walks of life! Even the grittier ones!"

in the world, the current Sims franchise **no longer accurately reflects** contemporary life! We think these titles do a better job of making The Sims experience relate to the world as it exists nowadays!"

There's a new 'hood coming to The Sims this summer! The Sims Fall on Hard Times gives your Sims the opportunity to live in the neighborhood crack house. Players must ensure that Sims' addiction levels remain high and that there's a ready supply

of pipes and paraphernalia to keep crackhouse residents satisfied. Other tasks include putting **bars on doors and windows**, competing with the meth (or "crank") lab next door for business, seeking out hiding places in case of **police raids**, and convincing paranoid cohabitants that you're not CIA.

The Sims Fall on Hard Times also introduces several new career paths, including Dealer, Mugger, Bag Lady, Hooker, and **Downward-Spiraling Diva**. In another Sims first, the Diva track is the only career in which a player can actually get demoted and lose Charisma points.

"We're really proud of this title!" says Leader. "Now that the government has pointed to **video games** as a major influencing factor in kids' lives, we feel it's our job to depict all walks of life! Even the grittier ones!"

Later this year Perspyr will release The Sims Celebrity Edition. Catapulting off the popularity of **reality-TV shows**—like *Celebrity Mole, The Surreal Life,* and *I'm a Celebrity, Get Me Out of Here!*—The Sims Celebrity Edition allows you to play one of eight celebrity

Sims living in a house together. Featured celebrities include Michael Moore, Charo, Tina Yothers, Adrian Zmed, John Ashcroft, Diana Ross, Tori Spelling, and Corey Feldman.

Players must manage the tenuous relationships in the house. Gameplay goals include getting Charo and John Ashcroft to freak-dance together, getting Tina Yothers and Corey Feldman to find a love connection, and building the relationship between John Ashcroft and Michael Moore to where they feel comfortable peeing in front of each other.

In a recent press conference to promote the game, a spokesman for Tori Spelling said, "Players should note that since this game's completion, **Spelling's physique** has been substantially altered. A patch will be available soon!"

When asked how she felt about starring in a game with former *Dance Fever* host Adrian Zmed, Charo screeched: "Coochi Coochi!"

John Ashcroft added: "I'm pleased to be a part of **The Sims Sunday Bible Study**. That's the name of this game, right?"

Games will be priced at \$29.95 and will be available online later this year.

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